

Florida Legislature Passes Health Plan To Offer 'No-Frills' Coverage To State's Uninsured

by Medical-News-Today

The Florida Legislature on Friday passed a health insurance package that would allow insurers to offer "no-frills coverage to the state's 3.8 million uninsured" residents, the South Florida Sun-Sentinel reports. Under the plan, Florida residents ages 19 to 64 could purchase limited health coverage for as little as \$150 per month. Insurers offering such plans would be exempt from state mandates requiring coverage for a range of items and procedures. The policies would cover preventive care and office visits but not care from specialists or long-term hospitalizations. The final plan was a combination of Gov. Charlie Crist's (R) "Cover Florida" plan, which was supported by the state Senate, and a House proposal (Hafenbrack, South Florida Sun-Sentinel, 5/3). The package also would allocate \$1.5 million to establish a corporation to help businesses with fewer than 50 employees negotiate health insurance rates, as well as handle premiums and claims (South Florida Sun-Sentinel graphic, 5/3). Reprinted with kind permission from <http://www.kaisernetwork.org>. You can view the entire Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report, search the archives, or sign up for email delivery at <http://www.kaisernetwork.org/dailyreports/healthpolicy>. The Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report is published for [kaisernetwork.org](http://www.kaisernetwork.org), a free service of The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation.

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