

Ron DeSantis Governor

February 27, 2019

Secretary Jonathan R. Satter Department of Management Services 4050 Esplanade Way Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Secretary Satter:

On January 1, 2019, the Department of Management Services (the Department), Division of State Group Insurance, began offering state employees a shoppable healthcare transparency tool administered by Healthcare Bluebook and a bundled services benefit administered by Surgery Plus. These programs provide state employees with the unique opportunity to shop for high-quality, lower cost healthcare services and to share in a portion of the savings generated.

To ensure that the state and its employees are realizing the cost savings that can result from using these programs, I am directing the Department to engage in a campaign to strengthen program participation by state employees. As part of this effort, I am directing the Department, at a minimum, to:

- Require all newly hired state employees to complete a guided video tour of Healthcare Bluebook and Surgery Plus when they are hired that explains how to use these resources;
- Require all human resources offices under my authority to require all employees enrolled in a state group health insurance plan to annually view an educational video explaining the transparency and bundled services options;
- Incorporate Healthcare Bluebook as part of the People First home page so employees can directly login and access the portal from People First in a consumer-friendly and streamlined manner;
- Require health plans to advise employees of Healthcare Bluebook and Surgery
 Plus options at the time a prior authorization for scheduled services is given so
 employees are reminded of the option to search for lower cost, high quality
 procedures; and

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• Engage in marketing to reach employees who have not yet logged into or utilized Healthcare Bluebook and Surgery Plus and inform them about the benefits of using these tools.

We must encourage state employees to use the cost and quality transparency tools that are now available to them through Healthcare Bluebook and Surgery Plus. This will empower our employees to take control of their healthcare options by shopping for services and procedures that are high-quality and less costly.

Sincerely,

Ron DeSantis Governor