

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to invalid restrictive covenants with  
3 physicians; amending s. 542.336, F.S.; providing that  
4 restrictive covenants which prohibit a physician from  
5 practicing medicine within a specified area for a  
6 certain period of time are void and unenforceable;  
7 providing an effective date.  
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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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11 Section 1. Section 542.336, Florida Statutes, is amended  
12 to read:

13 542.336 Invalid restrictive covenants.—A restrictive  
14 covenant entered into with a physician who is licensed under  
15 chapter 458 or chapter 459 which prohibits a physician from  
16 practicing medicine within a geographic area for any period of  
17 time after the termination of a contract, partnership,  
18 employment, or professional relationship ~~and who practices a~~  
19 ~~medical specialty in a county wherein one entity employs or~~  
20 ~~contracts with, either directly or through related or affiliated~~  
21 ~~entities, all physicians who practice such specialty in that~~  
22 ~~county is not supported by a legitimate business interest. The~~  
23 ~~Legislature finds that such covenants restrict patient access to~~  
24 ~~physicians, increase costs, and are void and unenforceable under~~  
25 ~~current law.~~ Such restrictive covenants are ~~shall remain~~ void

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26 | ~~and unenforceable for 3 years after the date on which a second~~  
27 | ~~entity that employs or contracts with, either directly or~~  
28 | ~~through related or affiliated entities, one or more physicians~~  
29 | ~~who practice such specialty begins offering such specialty~~  
30 | ~~services in that county.~~

31 |       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.