

ENROLLED ACT NO. 32, SENATE

FIFTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2004 BUDGET SESSION

AN ACT relating to hospitals; providing for a study of unreimbursed catastrophic and trauma care; specifying duties of the Wyoming health care commission in conducting a study; requiring a report; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

**Section 1.**

(a) The Wyoming health care commission with the assistance of the department shall conduct a study of unreimbursed catastrophic costs incurred by Wyoming hospitals. The study shall:

(i) Identify the magnitude of the problem;

(ii) Determine the level of costs shifted to private pay and private insurance customers;

(iii) Determine if access to services, especially trauma services, is endangered for both paying patients and patients unable to pay due to poverty;

(iv) Determine if reimbursement problems are endangering implementation of an effective trauma care system in Wyoming;

(v) Determine if state, county or local hospital district financial support for reimbursement problems identified by the report will provide long term solutions to the reimbursement problems;

(vi) Consider reasonable alternatives for reimbursing hospitals and other health care providers for

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unreimbursed catastrophic care and unreimbursed trauma care;

(vii) Consider the differences in existing local support for hospitals and other local health care providers;

(viii) Explore the cost feasibility of a state, county or local hospital district funded catastrophic insurance policy to cover all Wyoming citizens;

(ix) Consider state, county, hospital district and other funding sources to address any needs identified by the study; and

(x) If state support is identified as a reasonable long term option to address problems identified by the report, determine:

(A) The long term financial impact to the state of the program;

(B) The formula for distributing the funds;

(C) Potential revenue sources to cover the cost of the long term assistance; and

(D) The impact of state support on the expansion or growth of trauma care programs because of the state support.

(b) The final report of the study shall be submitted to the joint labor, health and social services interim committee by October 1, 2004.

**Section 2. Appropriations.**

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There is appropriated to the health care commission one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) from the general fund to carry out the study authorized by section 1 of this act.

**Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk