

SENATE FILE NO. SF0077

Medical trauma care.

Sponsored by: Joint Labor, Health and Social Services
Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to hospitals and health care providers;
2 providing for payments to hospitals for unreimbursed trauma
3 care, as specified; requiring reports; authorizing a
4 position; providing appropriations; and providing for an
5 effective date.

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

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9 **Section 1.**

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11 (a) As used in this act:

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13 (i) "Acute care hospital" means a hospital
14 licensed in Wyoming pursuant to W.S. 35-2-901 through
15 35-2-911 and which provides acute patient care;

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1 (ii) "Costs" means one hundred percent (100%) of
2 the Medicaid reimbursement as of January 1, 2005 for any
3 service incurred to provide trauma care services, including
4 health care provider services, provided to individuals with
5 income not exceeding two hundred fifty percent (250%) of
6 the federal poverty level;

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8 (iii) "Department" means the Wyoming department
9 of health;

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11 (iv) "Health care provider" means a person who
12 is licensed, certified or otherwise authorized by the law
13 of this state to provide health care in the ordinary course
14 of business or practice of a profession, but does not
15 include a person who provides health care solely through
16 the sale or dispensing of drugs or medical devices;

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18 (v) "Incident" means an admission, or related
19 series of admissions, both inpatient and outpatient,
20 involving traumatic care for an individual patient within a
21 one (1) year period to a single hospital. Admissions of
22 the same patient for causes not directly related to an
23 earlier admission shall be considered a separate incident;

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1 (vi) "Trauma care services" means services to
2 patients with at least one (1) injury diagnosis code, using
3 the International Classification of Diseases, 9th Edition,
4 from 800.0 through 904, 925 through 929, 940 through 959.9,
5 and 994.7, plus at least one (1) of the following:

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7 (A) Hospitalization for one (1) calendar
8 day;

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10 (B) Admission to the intensive care unit or
11 monitored bed unit;

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13 (C) Cardiac or respiratory arrest on route
14 to the hospital or emergency room;

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16 (D) Dead on arrival at the facility;

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18 (E) Transfer from or to another acute care
19 hospital;

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21 (F) Admission directly from the emergency
22 room to the operating room;

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24 (G) Trauma team activation;

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(H) Meets prehospital triage criteria.

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(b) Acute care hospitals and health care providers shall be reimbursed on a per incident basis for one-half

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(1/2) of the unreimbursed costs incurred, subject to the

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following:

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(i) There is compliance with the reporting requirements of the Wyoming trauma care program registry before the request for reimbursement;

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(ii) Incidents shall not be aggregated from one (1) hospital to another;

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(iii) Reimbursement shall be available for costs incurred after June 30, 2005 and before July 1, 2006;

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(iv) Any amounts received from or reasonably expected to be received from insurance, the patient or any other source on behalf of the patient for expenses incurred by the patient for the incident shall be deducted from the costs. Where a payment plan for monthly or other periodic payments has been established with the patient, or any

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1 person on behalf of the patient, only those payments
2 expected to be received in the first year after the due
3 date of the first bill sent to the patient shall be
4 considered;

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6 (v) Requests for reimbursement may be submitted
7 to the health department for payment only after one hundred
8 eighty (180) days have elapsed from the date the bill for
9 the services rendered was sent to the patient or his
10 representative, and only after good faith efforts have been
11 made to collect the bill.

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13 (c) The department shall promulgate rules and
14 regulations to administer this program on behalf of the
15 state of Wyoming. The department may contract with a
16 fiscal agent to make the actual payments and conduct any
17 necessary audits of reimbursement requests. Reimbursement
18 requests shall be made in a form and manner prescribed by
19 the department. The department or its agent on its behalf
20 may request any documentation it deems necessary to support
21 any request for reimbursement.

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23 (d) If during any month the department finds that the
24 reimbursement requests reasonably expected during the

1 following month are likely to exceed the appropriation
2 available, the department shall set the last day of that
3 following month as the cutoff date for the submission of
4 requests for reimbursement and shall prorate the payment of
5 reimbursement requests received during that following month
6 to assure that the expenditures do not exceed the
7 appropriation. If necessary to avoid exceeding the
8 appropriation, the department may prorate the payment of
9 expenditure requests received during the month the
10 determination is made.

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12 (e) If, for a claim which has been submitted, the
13 acute care hospital receives further reimbursement on or in
14 behalf of the patient which was not part of a monthly
15 payment plan or was not otherwise planned for, the acute
16 care hospital shall inform the department and one-half
17 (1/2) of the amount received shall be deducted from future
18 payments to the hospital. When no further payments are to
19 be made to the hospital under this act, the hospital shall
20 remit to the department any remaining balances from
21 reimbursements not deducted from payments. The department
22 shall deposit remittance from this source into the general
23 fund.

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1 (f) The department shall not reimburse any one (1)
2 acute care hospital in a cumulative amount greater than
3 twenty-five percent (25%) of the appropriation in section 2
4 of this act. However, if the department reasonably
5 concludes as of May 31, 2006, that the appropriation will
6 not be fully expended, the remaining funds may be used to
7 reimburse hospitals on a pro rata basis above the twenty-
8 five percent (25%) limit of this subsection, subject to the
9 requirements of subsection (b) of this section.

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11 **Section 2.** There is appropriated to the department of
12 health two million five hundred thousand dollars
13 (\$2,500,000.00) from the general fund for the program set
14 forth in section 1 of this act and fifty thousand dollars
15 (\$50,000.00) from the general fund to administer the
16 program. One (1) position is authorized for the department
17 to administer the program created by this act.

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19 **Section 3.** On or before December 1, 2005, the
20 department of health shall report to the joint
21 appropriations and the joint labor, health and social
22 services interim committees on the status of the program
23 including costs of services and how funds have been
24 expended.

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

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(END)