

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.

6

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

8

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, 9<sup>th</sup> 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) Trauma care costs had been reported to 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, 2007;

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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

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           **Section 2.** There is appropriated to the department of  
2 health five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) from the  
3 general fund for the program set forth in section 1 of this  
4 act and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from the  
5 general fund to administer the program. One (1) position  
6 is authorized for the department to administer the program  
7 created by this act.

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

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(END)