

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Medical specialty centers.

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

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public health and safety; providing a
2 temporary moratorium on licensing of new medical specialty
3 centers, as specified; providing a definition; providing
4 for a study of medical specialty centers by the Wyoming
5 health care commission; requiring a report; providing an
6 appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 35-2-913 is created to read:

11

12 **35-2-913. Medical specialty centers; moratorium.**

13

14 (a) For purposes of this section, "medical specialty
15 center" means a hospital organized or incorporated as a
16 for-profit entity that is primarily or exclusively engaged

1 in the care and treatment of one (1) or more of the
2 following:

3

4 (i) Patients with a cardiac condition;

5

6 (ii) Patients with an orthopedic condition;

7

8 (iii) Patients receiving a surgical procedure;

9 or

10

11 (iv) Patients receiving any other specialized
12 category of services designated by the department in its
13 rules and regulations.

14

15 (b) For purposes of this section, the following are
16 not medical specialty centers:

17

18 (i) Psychiatric hospitals;

19

20 (ii) Rehabilitation hospitals;

21

22 (iii) Children's hospitals;

23

24 (iv) Long-term care hospitals;

1

2 (v) Cancer treatment hospitals;

3

4 (vi) Existing medical specialty centers licensed
5 as provided in this chapter before April 1, 2006.

6

7 (b) Except for renewal licenses pursuant to W.S.
8 35-2-904(c), the department shall not issue a license for a
9 medical specialty center before January 1, 2008.

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11 (c) The department shall adopt rules and regulations
12 to implement the provisions of this section.

13

14 (d) The director pursuant to rules and regulations,
15 upon written application and a finding of an acute shortage
16 of health care in the community of the type offered by an
17 applicant medical specialty center, may waive the
18 moratorium provided under subsection (b) of this section.

19

20 (e) This section is repealed effective June 30, 2008.

21

22 **Section 2.** W.S. 35-2-901(a)(xxiv) is amended to read:

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24 **35-2-901. Definitions; applicability of provisions.**

1

2 (a) As used in this act:

3

4 (xxiv) "This act" means W.S. 35-2-901 through
5 ~~35-2-912~~ 35-2-913.

6

7 **Section 3.**

8

9 (a) The Wyoming health care commission shall conduct
10 a study of medical specialty centers and their effects,
11 both actual and potential, on the state's health care
12 system. In performing the study, the commission shall
13 evaluate and formulate recommendations regarding each of
14 the following issues:

15

16 (i) The possible effects on the state's health
17 care system, particularly on the delivery of inpatient
18 hospital services, of physician ownership and investment
19 interests in for-profit medical specialty centers;

20

21 (ii) The feasibility of requiring physicians
22 planning to establish a for-profit medical specialty center
23 to do so in collaboration with a general hospital. The
24 commission shall also consider how the hospital and

1 physicians might share ownership and investment interest in
2 a for-profit medical specialty center;

3

4 (iii) The feasibility of creating a fund to
5 subsidize high cost emergency and trauma care for uninsured
6 persons who are treated at hospitals other than medical
7 specialty centers and of requiring medical specialty
8 centers to contribute to the fund;

9

10 (iv) The feasibility of each of the following:

11

12 (A) Establishing a certificate of need
13 process;

14

15 (B) Modifying the licensure process for
16 institutions classified under title 35, chapter 2 of the
17 Wyoming statutes as health care facilities, including
18 ambulatory surgical facilities, freestanding dialysis
19 centers, freestanding inpatient rehabilitation facilities,
20 freestanding birthing centers, freestanding radiation
21 therapy centers, and freestanding or mobile diagnostic
22 imaging centers.

23

1 (v) The feasibility of requiring for-profit
2 medical specialty centers to provide a certain amount of
3 indigent care;

4

5 (vi) Any other issue the commission considers
6 appropriate.

7

8 (b) The commission shall submit its report to the
9 governor, the legislative management council and the joint
10 labor, health and social services interim committee not
11 later than July 1, 2008.

12

13 **Section 4.** One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00)
14 is appropriated from the general fund to the health care
15 commission for the purposes of the study required in
16 section 3 of this act.

17

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

22

23

(END)