

HOUSE BILL 1960

By Powell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 27, relative to public hospital state employee incentive programs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 27, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Governmental entity" includes a county or municipal government;

(2) "Public hospital" means a hospital, including any surgery or outpatient clinic operated by the hospital, that is owned by a governmental entity; a local hospital authority created under title 67, chapter 9; a metropolitan hospital authority; metropolitan private act hospital authority; or private act hospital authority created under the Metropolitan Hospital Authority Act, compiled in title 7, chapter 57; and

(3) "State employee" includes a university employee and an employee under the state board of regents.

(b) Public hospitals have the authority, upon approval of the hospital's governing body, to establish a state employee and retiree healthcare incentive program that will allow for the waiver of any or all applicable out-of-pocket expenses associated with medical, surgical, or mental health care at the public hospital, including deductibles, copays, and co-insurance, for state employees and retirees and their covered dependents participating in the state group insurance plan under this part.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.