

SENATE BILL 2332

By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-1-304, relative to dental services.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-1-304, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(c) The department shall provide dental emergency care for indigent adults pursuant to §§ 71-5-103 and 71-5-148. Local health departments with dental resources such as dental facilities and dental staff shall provide dental emergency care to indigent adults. In the event the health department cannot provide services for whatever reason, it shall refer that patient to licensed local providers and shall reimburse those providers at rates that meet or exceed the current TennCare fee schedule. Local health departments without dental resources shall provide dental emergency services for indigent adults through the private sector at rates that meet or exceed the current TennCare dental fee schedule.

SECTION 2. The act shall take effect upon becoming law the public welfare requiring it.