

SENATE FILE NO. SF0145

Hospital uncompensated care.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Peterson, Anderson, J.D. (SD02),  
Driskill and Landen and Representative(s)  
Barlow

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public health; providing for payments to  
2 acute care hospitals for uncompensated care as specified;  
3 providing definitions; providing an appropriation; and  
4 providing for an effective date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 35-2-1101 through 35-2-1104 is  
9 created to read:

10

11

ARTICLE 11

12

UNCOMPENSATED HOSPITAL CARE

13

14

**35-2-1101. Definitions.**

15

1 (a) As used in this article:

2

3 (i) "Acute care hospital" means a hospital  
4 licensed in Wyoming pursuant to W.S. 35-2-901 through  
5 35-2-911 and which provides acute patient care;

6

7 (ii) "Department" means the Wyoming department  
8 of health.

9

10 **35-2-1102. Uncompensated care fund established.**

11

12 (a) The uncompensated hospital care account is  
13 established. The following shall apply to the account:

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15 (i) Funds in the account are continuously  
16 appropriated to the department and shall be distributed on  
17 a quarterly basis to all hospitals in the state to reduce  
18 hospitals' costs for uncompensated care;

19

20 (ii) Funds in the account shall not be  
21 distributed for costs incurred before July 1, 2015.

22

1           (b) The department shall promulgate rules and  
2 regulations to administer the fund. The rules and  
3 regulations shall include provisions for:

4

5           (i) Ensuring that reimbursements do not exceed  
6 available funds;

7

8           (ii) Limiting reimbursement to the necessary  
9 support of the poor;

10

11           (iii) Preventing duplication between  
12 distributions from the account and proceeds from Medicaid  
13 or other third party payors;

14

15           (iv) Providing for hospital reports and  
16 distributions commencing with the calendar quarter  
17 beginning July 1, 2015.

18

19           (c) The department may contract with a fiscal agent  
20 to make the actual payments and conduct any necessary  
21 audits or distribution requests. Distribution requests  
22 shall be made in a form and manner prescribed by the  
23 department. The department or its agent on its behalf may

1 request any documentation it deems necessary to support any  
2 request for reimbursement.

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4 **35-2-1103. Uncompensated care; hospital reports.**

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6 (a) Each acute care hospital shall report to the  
7 department for each calendar quarter:

8

9 (i) The total number of hospital inpatient days  
10 for all patients admitted to the hospital who were  
11 qualified Medicaid recipients at the time of admission; and

12

13 (ii) The total number of patients treated in the  
14 hospital's emergency room, but who were not admitted for an  
15 overnight hospital stay, and who were qualified Medicaid  
16 recipients at the time of treatment.

17

18 **35-2-1104. Uncompensated hospital care account;  
19 distributions.**

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21 (a) The department shall distribute available funds  
22 in the uncompensated hospital care account to hospitals on  
23 a pro rata basis reflecting the relative proportion of each

1 hospital's quarterly total of inpatient days and emergency  
2 room patients reported pursuant to W.S. 35-2-1103 to the  
3 statewide cumulative quarterly total of inpatient days and  
4 emergency room patients for all hospitals.

5

6 (b) For purposes of distributions pursuant to  
7 subsection (a) of this section, available funds shall be  
8 the total of all funds appropriated for this purpose,  
9 divided by the number of calendar quarters remaining in the  
10 period for which the appropriation was made.

11

12 **Section 2.** There is appropriated ten million dollars  
13 (\$10,000,000.00) from the general fund to the uncompensated  
14 hospital care account created by W.S. 35-2-1102.  
15 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this  
16 appropriation shall not be included in the 2017-2018  
17 standard biennial budget. This appropriation shall be  
18 expended quarterly only as provided by W.S. 35-2-1104(b).

19

20 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2015.

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22

(END)