

By the Committee on Comprehensive Planning, Local and Military Affairs; and Senator Mitchell

316-2023-00

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to financial responsibility for
3 indigent hospital patients; amending s.
4 154.306, F.S.; requiring that counties accept
5 specified documents, forms, and other
6 information provided by participating hospital
7 or regional referral hospital; providing for
8 excluding active-duty military personnel and
9 certain institutionalized county residents from
10 state population estimates when calculating a
11 county's financial responsibility for
12 hospitals' treatment of the specific county's
13 indigent residents; providing an effective
14 date.

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16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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18 Section 1. Present subsections (3) and (4) of section
19 154.306, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4)
20 and (5), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to
21 that section, to read:

22 154.306 Financial responsibility for certified
23 residents who are qualified indigent patients treated at an
24 out-of-county participating hospital or regional referral
25 hospital.--Ultimate financial responsibility for treatment
26 received at a participating hospital or a regional referral
27 hospital by a qualified indigent patient who is a certified
28 resident of a county in the State of Florida, but is not a
29 resident of the county in which the participating hospital or
30 regional referral hospital is located, is the obligation of
31 the county of which the qualified indigent patient is a

1 resident. Each county shall reimburse participating hospitals
2 or regional referral hospitals as provided for in this part,
3 and shall provide or arrange for indigent eligibility
4 determination procedures and resident certification
5 determination procedures as provided for in rules developed to
6 implement this part. The agency, or any county determining
7 eligibility of a qualified indigent, shall provide to the
8 county of residence, upon request, a copy of any documents,
9 forms, or other information, as determined by rule, which may
10 be used in making an eligibility determination.

11 (3) For the purpose of computing the maximum amount
12 that a county at or below 100,000 in population may be
13 required to pay, the agency must reduce the official state
14 population estimates by the number of inmates and patients
15 residing in the county in institutions operated by the Federal
16 Government, the Department of Corrections, the Department of
17 Health, or the Department of Children and Family Services, and
18 by the number of active-duty military personnel residing in
19 the county, all of whom shall shall not be considered
20 residents of the county, provided that the county agrees to
21 accept such documents, forms, or other information used to
22 certify financial eligibility and county residency, provided
23 by the participating hospital or regional referral hospital to
24 the county of residence as valid and true without requiring
25 reverification by the county of residence, and provided such
26 documentation is complete and in the form required by s.
27 154.3105.

28 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.
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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SB 2284

The CS applies the new population calculations only to counties at or below 100,000 in population, provided the counties agree to accept certain reimbursement requests from the hospitals, without reverification, under specified conditions.