

By Representative Fasano

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to public medical assistance;  
3           amending s. 395.701, F.S.; reducing the annual  
4           assessment on hospital outpatient services to  
5           fund public medical assistance; amending s.  
6           395.7015, F.S.; reducing the annual assessment  
7           on certain other health care entities to fund  
8           public medical assistance; providing for annual  
9           appropriations to replace funds lost due to  
10          such reductions; providing an appropriation;  
11          providing a contingent effective date.

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13           WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the provision of  
14          indigent care is a broad societal responsibility not to be  
15          placed solely on those who provide or receive health care, and

16           WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the current  
17          economic conditions for health care entities are different  
18          than when the assessment on hospitals was instituted in 1984  
19          and the assessment on other health care entities was  
20          instituted in 1991, and

21           WHEREAS, because these assessments place a great burden  
22          on hospitals and other health care entities, it is the intent  
23          of the Legislature by this act to provide relief to hospitals  
24          and other health care entities, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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28           Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section  
29          395.701, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

30           395.701 Annual assessments on net operating revenues  
31          for inpatient and outpatient services to fund public medical

1 assistance; administrative fines for failure to pay  
2 assessments when due; exemption.--  
3 (2)  
4 (b) There is imposed upon each hospital an assessment  
5 in an amount equal to 0.5 ± percent of the annual net  
6 operating revenue for outpatient services for each hospital,  
7 such revenue to be determined by the agency, based on the  
8 actual experience of the hospital as reported to the agency.  
9 Within 6 months after the end of each hospital fiscal year,  
10 the agency shall certify the amount of the assessment for each  
11 hospital. The assessment shall be payable to and collected by  
12 the agency in equal quarterly amounts, on or before the first  
13 day of each calendar quarter, beginning with the first full  
14 calendar quarter that occurs after the agency certifies the  
15 amount of the assessment for each hospital. All moneys  
16 collected pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into  
17 the Public Medical Assistance Trust Fund.

18 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
19 395.7015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20 395.7015 Annual assessment on health care entities.--

21 (2) There is imposed an annual assessment against  
22 certain health care entities as described in this section:

23 (a) The assessment shall be equal to 0.5 ± percent of  
24 the annual net operating revenues of health care entities. The  
25 assessment shall be payable to and collected by the agency.  
26 Assessments shall be based on annual net operating revenues  
27 for the entity's most recently completed fiscal year as  
28 provided in subsection (3).

29 Section 3. The Legislature shall appropriate each  
30 fiscal year from either the General Revenue Fund or the Agency  
31 for Health Care Administration Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund

1 an amount sufficient to replace the funds lost due to the  
2 reduction by this act in the assessment on hospitals under s.  
3 395.701, Florida Statutes, and the reduction by this act of  
4 the assessment on other health care entities under s.  
5 395.7015, Florida Statutes, and to maintain federal approval  
6 of the reduced amount of funds deposited into the Public  
7 Medical Assistance Trust Fund under s. 395.701, Florida  
8 Statutes, as state match for the state's Medicaid program.

9       Section 4. There is appropriated the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_  
10 million from the General Revenue Fund to the Agency for Health  
11 Care Administration to implement the provisions of this act  
12 relating to the Public Medical Assistance Trust Fund; however,  
13 no portion of this appropriation that duplicates a similar  
14 appropriation for the same purpose contained in other  
15 legislation for the 2001 Regular Session that becomes law  
16 shall be effective.

17       Section 5. This act shall take effect only upon the  
18 Agency for Health Care Administration receiving written  
19 confirmation from the federal Health Care Financing  
20 Administration that the amendments contained in this act will  
21 not adversely affect the use of the remaining assessments as  
22 state match for the state's Medicaid program.

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25                   HOUSE SUMMARY

26       Reduces the annual assessments on hospital outpatient  
27 services and certain other health care entities to fund  
28 public medical assistance, and provides for annual  
29 appropriations to replace the funds lost due to such  
30 reductions. Takes effect contingent on receipt of certain  
31 written confirmation from the federal Health Care  
Financing Administration.