

By the Fiscal Responsibility Council and Representatives  
Fasano, Ritter and Fiorentino

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; limiting the  
6           financial information that may be required to  
7           determine the amount of the assessment;  
8           amending s. 395.7015, F.S.; reducing the annual  
9           assessment on certain other health care  
10          entities to fund public medical assistance;  
11          amending s. 395.7016, F.S.; providing for  
12          annual appropriations to replace funds lost due  
13          to such reductions; providing an effective  
14          date.

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

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

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

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29   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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1           Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section  
2 395.701, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

3           395.701 Annual assessments on net operating revenues  
4 for inpatient and outpatient services to fund public medical  
5 assistance; administrative fines for failure to pay  
6 assessments when due; exemption.--

7           (2)

8           (b) There is imposed upon each hospital an assessment  
9 in an amount equal to 0.5 ± percent of the annual net  
10 operating revenue for outpatient services for each hospital,  
11 such revenue to be determined by the agency, based on the  
12 actual experience of the hospital as reported to the agency.  
13 While prior year report worksheets may be reconciled to the  
14 hospital's audited financial statements, no additional audited  
15 financial components may be required for the purposes of  
16 determining the amount of the assessment imposed pursuant to  
17 this section other than those in effect on July 1, 2000.

18 Within 6 months after the end of each hospital fiscal year,  
19 the agency shall certify the amount of the assessment for each  
20 hospital. The assessment shall be payable to and collected by  
21 the agency in equal quarterly amounts, on or before the first  
22 day of each calendar quarter, beginning with the first full  
23 calendar quarter that occurs after the agency certifies the  
24 amount of the assessment for each hospital. All moneys  
25 collected pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into  
26 the Public Medical Assistance Trust Fund.

27           Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
28 395.7015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

29           395.7015 Annual assessment on health care entities.--

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

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

7           Section 3. Section 395.7016, Florida Statutes, is  
8 amended to read:

9           395.7016 Annual appropriation.--The Legislature shall  
10 appropriate each fiscal year from either the General Revenue  
11 Fund or the Agency for Health Care Administration Tobacco  
12 Settlement Trust Fund an amount sufficient to replace the  
13 funds lost due to reduction by chapter 2000-256, Laws of  
14 Florida, and by chapter 2001- , Laws of Florida, (this act)  
15 of the assessment on other health care entities under s.  
16 395.7015, and the reduction by chapter 2000-256, Laws of  
17 Florida, and by chapter 2001- , Laws of Florida, (this act)  
18 in the assessment on hospitals under s. 395.701, and to  
19 maintain federal approval of the reduced amount of funds  
20 deposited into the Public Medical Assistance Trust Fund under  
21 s. 395.701, as state match for the state's Medicaid program.

22           Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.  
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