

By Representatives McGriff, Murman, Bean, Henriquez and
Miller

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.; providing procedures for
5 computing the maximum amount that specified
6 counties must pay for the treatment of an
7 indigent resident of the county at a hospital
8 located outside the county; providing for the
9 exclusion of active-duty military personnel and
10 certain institutionalized county residents from
11 state population estimates when calculating a
12 county's financial responsibility for such
13 hospital care; requiring the county of
14 residence to accept the hospital's
15 documentation of financial eligibility and
16 county residence; requiring that the
17 documentation meet specified criteria;
18 providing an effective date.

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

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22 Section 1. Present subsections (3) and (4) of section
23 154.306, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4)
24 and (5), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to
25 that section, to read:

26 154.306 Financial responsibility for certified
27 residents who are qualified indigent patients treated at an
28 out-of-county participating hospital or regional referral
29 hospital.--Ultimate financial responsibility for treatment
30 received at a participating hospital or a regional referral
31 hospital by a qualified indigent patient who is a certified

1 resident of a county in the State of Florida, but is not a
2 resident of the county in which the participating hospital or
3 regional referral hospital is located, is the obligation of
4 the county of which the qualified indigent patient is a
5 resident. Each county shall reimburse participating hospitals
6 or regional referral hospitals as provided for in this part,
7 and shall provide or arrange for indigent eligibility
8 determination procedures and resident certification
9 determination procedures as provided for in rules developed to
10 implement this part. The agency, or any county determining
11 eligibility of a qualified indigent, shall provide to the
12 county of residence, upon request, a copy of any documents,
13 forms, or other information, as determined by rule, which may
14 be used in making an eligibility determination.

15 (3) For the purpose of computing the maximum amount
16 that a county having a population of 100,000 or less may be
17 required to pay, the agency must reduce the official state
18 population estimates by the number of inmates and patients
19 residing in the county in institutions operated by the Federal
20 Government, the Department of Corrections, the Department of
21 Health, or the Department of Children and Family Services, and
22 by the number of active-duty military personnel residing in
23 the county, all of whom shall not be considered residents of
24 the county. However, a county is entitled to receive the
25 benefit of such a reduction in estimated population figures
26 only if the county accepts as valid and true, and does not
27 require any reverification of, the documentation of financial
28 eligibility and county residency which is provided to it by
29 the participating hospital or regional referral hospital. The
30 participating hospital or regional referral hospital must

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1 provide documentation that is complete and in the form
2 required by s. 154.3105.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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6 SENATE SUMMARY

7 Provides procedures for computing the maximum amount that
8 any county having a population of 100,000 or less must
9 pay for the treatment of an indigent resident of the
10 county at a hospital located outside the county. Provides
11 for excluding active-duty military personnel and certain
12 institutionalized county residents from state population
13 estimates when calculating a county's financial
14 responsibility for such hospital care. Requires the
15 county of residence to accept the hospital's
16 documentation of financial eligibility and county
17 residence. Requires that the documentation meet specified
18 criteria.
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