



HB 1733

2003

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to acute care hospitals; amending s.
3 408.043, F.S.; providing for certain acute care hospitals
4 in high growth counties to add additional beds without the
5 approval of the Agency for Health Care Administration;
6 providing for notice; providing an effective date.

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

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10 Section 1. Subsection (5) is added to section 408.043,
11 Florida Statutes, to read:

12 408.043 Special provisions.--

13 (5) SOLE ACUTE CARE HOSPITALS IN HIGH GROWTH

14 COUNTIES.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an acute
15 care hospital licensed under chapter 395 may add up to 180
16 additional beds without agency review if such hospital is
17 located in a county that has experienced at least a 60-percent
18 growth rate for the most recent 10-year period for which data
19 are available as determined by using the population statistics
20 published in the most recent edition of the Florida Statistical
21 Abstract, is the sole acute care hospital in the county, and is
22 the only acute care hospital within a 10-mile radius of another
23 hospital. A hospital shall provide written notice to the agency
24 that it qualifies under this subsection prior to the addition of
25 beds. Such projects shall not be subject to challenge under s.
26 408.039 or chapter 120. Acute care beds added under this
27 subsection shall not be included in the inventory of hospital
28 beds used by the agency in the calculation of the fixed-bed-need
29 pool for acute care hospitals.

30 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.