

By Senator Jones

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to acute care hospitals;  
amending s. 408.043, F.S.; providing for  
certain acute care hospitals in high growth  
counties to add additional beds, with the  
approval of the Agency for Health Care  
Administration; providing an effective date.

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

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

408.043 Special provisions.--

(5) SOLE ACUTE CARE HOSPITALS IN HIGH GROWTH  
COUNTIES.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an  
acute care hospital licensed under chapter 395 may add up to  
180 additional beds without agency review if such hospital is  
located in a county that has experienced at least a 60-percent  
growth rate since 1990, was under construction on January 1,  
2002, is the sole acute care hospital in the county, and is  
the only acute care hospital within a ten-mile radius of the  
hospital.

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

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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides for certain acute care hospitals to add  
additional beds without a review by the Agency for Health  
Care Administration.