

By Senator Pruitt

28-728-04

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to satellite hospital
3 facilities; amending s. 408.036, F.S.;
4 providing an exemption from certificate-of-need
5 review if a hospital licensed under ch. 395,
6 F.S., transfers up to 100 acute care beds in
7 order to establish a satellite hospital
8 facility in the same county as the hospital's
9 primary location; requiring the hospital to
10 meet specified criteria in order to transfer
11 the acute care beds to a satellite facility;
12 prohibiting a hospital from establishing a
13 satellite hospital facility if all the licensed
14 hospital beds in the county are owned by or
15 affiliated with the same corporation; providing
16 an effective date.

17 WHEREAS, the state has the responsibility to ensure
18 that health care is available now and in the future throughout
19 the state to all its residents, regardless of their
20 socioeconomic status or station in life, and

21 WHEREAS, many of the state's residents are underserved
22 for their health care needs and rely upon certain hospitals to
23 provide them with their health care needs, and

24 WHEREAS, the state recognizes the importance of
25 maintaining a system of hospitals throughout the state to
26 ensure that the underserved population has access to hospitals
27 when the need arises and acknowledges that these hospitals
28 serve a critical state purpose in providing this care, and

29 WHEREAS, these hospitals have historically provided
30 substantial amounts of Medicaid, charity, and uncompensated
31

1 care to the underserved populations, including the working
2 poor, and

3 WHEREAS, it is an important state interest to ensure
4 that the hospitals continue to provide extraordinary amounts
5 of health care services to the state's underserved
6 populations, and

7 WHEREAS, these hospitals have experienced a
8 historically low census of patients with the ability to pay
9 for the hospital's services, and

10 WHEREAS, these hospitals have been in existence for
11 many years and have become geographically place-bound with
12 little opportunity to expand beyond their current facility
13 property lines, and

14 WHEREAS, it is in the state's best interest to ensure
15 these hospitals' financial viability in order to serve an
16 essential public purpose by providing care to the underserved,
17 and

18 WHEREAS, it is in the state's interest to ensure that
19 the hospitals serving largely underserved populations have the
20 ability to broaden and increase their source of commercially
21 or other compensated care, and

22 WHEREAS, there is a need for these hospitals to offset
23 the economic burdens of being the primary source of care for
24 underserved populations, including Medicaid, charity, and
25 uncompensated care, with more and a wider variety of patients,
26 and

27 WHEREAS, these hospitals need to serve a wider segment
28 of the community to increase their census with additional
29 patients and payor groups, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

1 Section 1. Paragraph (u) is added to subsection (3) of
2 section 408.036, Florida Statutes, to read:

3 408.036 Projects subject to review; exemptions.--

4 (3) EXEMPTIONS.--Upon request, the following projects
5 are subject to exemption from the provisions of subsection
6 (1):

7 (u) For the transfer of up to 100 acute care beds in
8 order to establish a satellite hospital facility within the
9 same county if the hospital licensed under chapter 395 meets
10 the following conditions:

11 1. The hospital's census of all licensed acute care
12 beds has been below 60 percent for the 5 years prior to the
13 time it notifies the agency of its intention to establish the
14 satellite hospital facility;

15 2. The hospital's combined gross revenue from Medicaid
16 and charity patients exceeds \$60 million per year for the 2
17 years prior to the time it notifies the agency of its
18 intention to establish the satellite hospital facility;

19 3. The satellite hospital facility meets all the
20 hospital licensure requirements under chapter 395; and

21 4. The satellite hospital facility is limited in size
22 to the 100 licensed acute care beds transferred from the
23 existing facility.

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25 This paragraph does not apply if all licensed hospital beds in
26 the county are owned by or affiliated with the same
27 corporation.

28 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides an exemption from certificate-of-need review if a hospital licensed under chapter 395, F.S., transfers up to 100 acute care beds in order to establish a satellite hospital facility in the same county as the hospital's primary location. Requires a hospital to meet specified criteria in order to transfer the acute care beds to a satellite facility. Directs that a hospital may not establish a satellite hospital facility if all the licensed hospital beds in the county are owned by or affiliated with the same corporation.