

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 285

An act relating to the Medicaid low-income pool and disproportionate share program; amending s. 409.911, F.S.; expanding the membership of the Medicaid Low-Income Pool Council; providing for composition of expanded membership; designating a council chair; providing restrictions on specified appointments; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 409.911, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.911 Disproportionate share program.—Subject to specific allocations established within the General Appropriations Act and any limitations established pursuant to chapter 216, the agency shall distribute, pursuant to this section, moneys to hospitals providing a disproportionate share of Medicaid or charity care services by making quarterly Medicaid payments as required. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 409.915, counties are exempt from contributing toward the cost of this special reimbursement for hospitals serving a disproportionate share of low-income patients.

(9) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall create a Medicaid Low-Income Pool Council by July 1, 2006. The Low-Income Pool Council shall consist of 24 ~~17~~ members, including 2 ~~members appointed by the President of the Senate, 2~~ members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, 3 representatives of statutory teaching hospitals, 3 representatives of public hospitals, 3 representatives of nonprofit hospitals, 3 representatives of for-profit hospitals, 2 representatives of rural hospitals, 2 representatives of units of local government which contribute funding, and 1 representative of family practice teaching hospitals, 1 ~~representative of~~ federally qualified health centers, 1 representative from the Department of Health, and 1 nonvoting representative of the Agency for Health Care Administration who shall serve as chair of the council. Except for a full-time employee of a public entity, an individual who qualifies as a lobbyist under s. 11.045 or s. 112.3215 may not serve as a member of the council. Of the members appointed by the Senate President, only one shall be a physician. Of the members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, only one shall be a physician. The physician member appointed by the Senate President and the physician member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives must be physicians who routinely take calls in a trauma center, as defined in s. 395.4001, or a hospital emergency department. The council shall:

(a) Make recommendations on the financing of the low-income pool and the disproportionate share hospital program and the distribution of their funds.

(b) Advise the Agency for Health Care Administration on the development of the low-income pool plan required by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services pursuant to the Medicaid reform waiver.

(c) Advise the Agency for Health Care Administration on the distribution of hospital funds used to adjust inpatient hospital rates, rebase rates, or otherwise exempt hospitals from reimbursement limits as financed by inter-governmental transfers.

(d) Submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature no later than February 1 of each year.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor May 20, 2009.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 20, 2009.