

## CHAPTER 2026-190

### House Bill No. 4007

An act relating to Martin County; repealing chapter 67-1702, Laws of Florida, relating to the authority of Martin County to obtain repayment of certain welfare funds and to acquire liens on certain real and personal property and interests; amending chapter 65-1906, Laws of Florida, as amended; requiring the Martin County Board of County Commissioners to create by ordinance a process for the distribution of funds from the County Health Care Fund to all licensed hospitals in the county; providing criteria to be qualified as indigent residents of the county, for the purpose of receiving county payments for hospital care; removing provisions relating to the County Health Care Review Board; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Chapter 67-1702, Laws of Florida, is repealed.

Section 2. Sections 2, 3, and 4 and section 3 of chapter 65-1906, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 2001-295 and 2011-247, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

Section 2. The money derived from this tax shall be paid into the County Health Care Fund. The Martin County Board of County Commissioners shall create by ordinance a process for the distribution of funds from the County Health Care Fund to be disbursed between all licensed hospitals in Martin County. The County Health Care Fund which shall be used by the Martin County Board of County Commissioners only to pay for:

(1) Hospitalization, administrative costs and costs of doctors' services incidental to and included in the cost of hospital care, within Martin County for indigent residents of Martin County. To qualify as an indigent resident, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

(a) The applicant is a resident of Martin County for at least six (6) months before the applicant's hospitalization;

(b) The applicant's family unit does not exceed the household gross income equivalent to 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines;

(c) The applicant is not eligible for Medicaid or another third-party payor program; and

(d) The applicant does not have liquid assets in excess of 8,000 dollars.

(2) Health care programs required by Florida Statutes to be funded by counties.

(3) Other health care programs based upon a level of service to be determined from time to time by the Martin County Board of County Commissioners.

All unexpended moneys in the County Health Care Fund at the end of each budget year shall remain in the County Health Care Fund from year to year. Disbursements from the County Health Care Fund shall be by check of the Martin County Board of County Commissioners signed by its chairman upon the approval of a majority of its members.

~~Section 3.—(1) There shall be created a five (5) member County Health Care Review Board to be comprised of:~~

~~(a) Two (2) members of the Martin County Board of County Commissioners appointed by its chairman;~~

~~(b) Two (2) current or former members of the Martin Memorial Health Systems Board or an affiliated board or committee thereof appointed by the chairman of the Martin Memorial Health Systems Board;~~

~~(c) One (1) member at large to be chosen by a majority of the four (4) members so appointed.~~

~~(2) The terms of office of members shall expire January 15 of each year.~~

~~Section 4.—The County Health Care Review Board shall recommend to the Martin County Board of County Commissioners those indigent individuals whose hospitalization and other costs as set forth in section 2(1) shall be paid from the County Health Care Fund.~~

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 10, 2026.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 10, 2026.