

SENATE FLOOR SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE TAX, BUSINESS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR SENATE BILL 146

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

AN ACT

RELATING TO HOSPITALS; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF THE HOSPITAL
FUNDING ACT TO PROVIDE AFFORDABLE PAYMENT PLANS TO PATIENTS
UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Hospital Funding Act is
enacted to read:

"~~[NEW MATERIAL]~~ COUNTY HOSPITALS AND CONTRACTING
HOSPITALS--PAYMENT PLANS REQUIRED UNDER CERTAIN
CIRCUMSTANCES.--

A. A county hospital or contracting hospital shall
provide a patient with immediate treatment and an affordable
payment plan if the county hospital or contracting hospital is
the only provider of care in the county where the patient
resides for a life-threatening condition, including cancer,

.228378.1

underscoring material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 that places the patient's health in serious jeopardy, causes
2 serious impairment to bodily function or causes serious
3 dysfunction of any bodily organ as validated by the hospital
4 under the following circumstances:

5 (1) the patient's health insurance plan is not
6 accepted by the county hospital or contracting hospital;

7 (2) the patient is uninsured;

8 (3) the patient is ineligible for county
9 indigent programs; or

10 (4) the patient is ineligible for the New
11 Mexico medical insurance pool.

12 B. In cases of life-threatening conditions, a
13 county hospital or contracting hospital shall provide the
14 patient with immediate treatment and an affordable payment plan
15 until the effective date of coverage by a county indigent
16 program or the New Mexico medical insurance pool."