

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-first Legislature Second Regular Session - 2012

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 441

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE FOR INDIGENT PERSONS; AMENDING SECTION 31-3503, IDAHO CODE, TO AUTHORIZE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO PAY FOR AUTHORIZED EXPENSES TO MANAGE HEALTH CARE COSTS FOR INDIGENT PERSONS; AMENDING SECTION 31-3503A, IDAHO CODE, TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF THE CATASTROPHIC HEALTH CARE COST PROGRAM TO PAY FOR AUTHORIZED EXPENSES TO MANAGE HEALTH CARE COSTS FOR INDIGENT PERSONS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.

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

SECTION 1. That Section 31-3503, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

31-3503. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. The county commissioners in their respective counties shall, under such limitations and restrictions as are prescribed by law:

(1) Pay for necessary medical services for the medically indigent residents of their counties as provided in this chapter and as approved by the county commissioners at the reimbursement rate up to the total sum of eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000) in the aggregate per resident in any consecutive twelve (12) month period or contract for the provision of necessary medical services pursuant to sections 31-3520 and 31-3521, Idaho Code.

(2) Have the right to contract with providers, transfer patients, negotiate provider agreements, conduct utilization management or any portion thereof, pay for authorized expenses directly, or indirectly through the use of alternative programs, that would assist in managing costs of providing health care for indigent persons, and all other powers incident to the county's duties created by this chapter.

(3) Cooperate with the department, the board and contractors retained by the department or the board to provide services including, but not limited to, medicaid eligibility review and utilization management on behalf of the counties and the board.

(4) Have the jurisdiction and power to provide county hospitals and public general hospitals for the county and others who are sick, injured, maimed, aged and infirm and to erect, enlarge, purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire, and to officer, maintain and improve hospitals, hospital grounds, nurses' homes, shelter care facilities and residential or assisted living facilities as defined in section 39-3301, Idaho Code, superintendent's quarters, medical clinics, as that term is defined in section 39-1319, Idaho Code, medical clinic grounds or any other necessary buildings, and to equip the same, and to replace equipment, and for this purpose said commissioners may levy an additional tax of not to exceed six hundredths percent (.06%) of the market value for assessment purposes on all taxable property within the

1 county. The term "public general hospitals" as used in this subsection shall
2 be construed to include nursing homes.

3 SECTION 2. That Section 31-3503A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
4 amended to read as follows:

5 31-3503A. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD. The board shall, under such
6 limitations and restrictions as are prescribed by law:

7 (1) Pay for the cost of necessary medical services for a medically indi-
8 gent resident, as provided in this chapter, where the cost of necessary med-
9 ical services when paid at the reimbursement rate exceeds the total sum of
10 eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000) in the aggregate per resident in any con-
11 secutive twelve (12) month period;

12 (2) Have the right to negotiate provider agreements, contract for uti-
13 lization management or any portion thereof, pay for authorized expenses di-
14 rectly, or indirectly through the use of alternative programs, that would
15 assist in managing costs of providing health care for indigent persons, and
16 all other powers incident to the board's duties created by this chapter;

17 (3) Cooperate with the department, respective counties of the state and
18 contractors retained by the department or county commissioners to provide
19 services including, but not limited to, eligibility review and utilization
20 management on behalf of the counties and the board;

21 (4) Require, as the board deems necessary, annual reports from each
22 county and each hospital including, but not limited to, the following:

23 (a) From each county and for each applicant:

24 (i) Case number and the date services began;

25 (ii) Age;

26 (iii) Residence;

27 (iv) Sex;

28 (v) Diagnosis;

29 (vi) Income;

30 (vii) Family size;

31 (viii) Amount of costs incurred including provider, legal and ad-
32 ministrative charges;

33 (ix) Approval or denial; and

34 (x) Reasons for denial.

35 (b) From each hospital:

36 (i) 990 tax forms or comparable information;

37 (ii) Cost of charges where charitable care was provided; and

38 (iii) Administrative and legal costs incurred in processing
39 claims under this chapter.

40 (5) Authorize all disbursements from the catastrophic health care cost
41 program in accordance with the provisions of this chapter;

42 (6) Make and enter into contracts;

43 (7) Develop and submit a proposed budget setting forth the amount nec-
44 essary to perform its functions and prepare an annual report;

45 (8) Perform such other duties as set forth in the laws of this state; and

46 (9) Conduct examinations, investigations, audits and hear testimony
47 and take proof, under oath or affirmation, at public or private hearings, on
48 any matter necessary to fulfill its duties.

1 SECTION 3. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
2 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its
3 passage and approval, and retroactively to July 1, 2011.