

1 HB484
2 174584-1
3 By Representatives McMillan, Davis, Baker, Shiver and Faust (N
4 & P)
5 RFD: Baldwin County Legislation
6 First Read: 05-APR-16

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9 A BILL
10 TO BE ENTITLED
11 AN ACT
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13 Relating to Baldwin County; to amend Section
14 45-2-171.21 of the Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the
15 Baldwin County Indigent Care Board and describing its
16 authority, composition and duties; to provide further for the
17 board or the county commission to disburse funds collected
18 from applicable revenue sources.

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

20 Section 1. Section 45-2-171.21, Code of Alabama
21 1975, is amended to read as follows:

22 "§45-2-171.21.

23 "At the determination of the county commission,
24 there may be hereby established the Baldwin County Indigent
25 Care Board, hereinafter referred to as "the board," whose
26 composition and duties shall be as follows:

1 "(1) The county commission may appoint a Baldwin
2 County Indigent Care Board which shall consist of four members
3 who are duly qualified electors of Baldwin County, but no
4 member of such board shall be employed by any hospital. Of the
5 members of the board first appointed under the provisions of
6 this section, one shall be appointed for a term of one year,
7 one shall be appointed for a term of two years, one shall be
8 appointed for a term of three years and one shall be appointed
9 for a term of four years. Thereafter, their successors shall
10 be appointed for terms of four years and may be appointed to
11 succeed themselves as members of the board. The county
12 commission shall appoint all members of the board. In the
13 event the county commission does not appoint the subject
14 board, the duties and responsibilities of the board provided
15 for herein shall be carried out by the county commission.
16 Members of the board shall serve without compensation, except
17 that they may be reimbursed for all necessary and proper
18 expenses incurred in performance of their duties.

19 "(2) The board shall meet monthly at a public place
20 within Baldwin County to certify accounts presented to the
21 board by hospitals of medical care who are providing medical
22 care to medically indigent citizens of Baldwin County and to
23 make recommendations for payments from the board's account or
24 accounts to such hospitals of medical care. The board shall be
25 empowered to employ appropriate personnel with county
26 commission approval for the purpose of maintaining the board's
27 records and accounts or the county commission may provide such

1 personnel for the purpose of maintaining the board's records
2 and accounts, and the board shall be empowered to expend
3 revenues in its account or accounts to carry out the several
4 provisions of this subpart. ~~The board shall prescribe~~
5 ~~reimbursement to be paid to hospitals of medical care to the~~
6 ~~medically indigent persons provided for in this subpart, at an~~
7 ~~amount equal to the reasonable cost of said services rendered~~
8 ~~by the hospitals. It shall be the responsibility of the~~
9 ~~hospitals of medical care to verify and furnish appropriate~~
10 ~~materials for the board to certify the accounts presented.~~
11 ~~Provided, however, notwithstanding any part herein to the~~
12 ~~contrary, hospitals of medical care shall be reimbursed on an~~
13 ~~approved per diem cost reimbursement rate approved by the~~
14 ~~Baldwin County Commission annually. Indigent care~~
15 ~~reimbursement shall not include amounts for contractual~~
16 ~~adjustments, discounts, or amounts required to be provided~~
17 ~~under Hill-Burton, educational expenses or other funds~~
18 ~~supporting indigent care for any other source. A hospital~~
19 ~~shall be reimbursed for providing hospital care to a medically~~
20 ~~indigent person at a rate approved to such hospitals by the~~
21 ~~Baldwin County Commission. Reimbursements by the board shall~~
22 ~~not include any payment for physician services. The board~~
23 ~~shall require a copy of a certified audit without~~
24 ~~qualifications of any hospital applying for reimbursement by~~
25 ~~the board and the cost of such audit shall be the burden of~~
26 ~~the hospitals. The board with county commission approval,~~

1 shall annually establish maximum cost reimbursements to
2 hospitals in and out of county for indigent care.

3 "(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
4 section, the board, or the county commission if no board is
5 established, may elect to disburse all or any portion of the
6 funds received, collected, or held pursuant to or in
7 accordance with subdivision (5) of Section 45-2-245 to
8 hospitals with campuses located in county as approved by the
9 board or the county commission in accordance with the terms,
10 conditions, criteria, or limitations adopted by the board or
11 county commission, in its discretion. The board or county
12 commission may disburse the funds as set forth in this
13 section, regardless of whether or not there are any individual
14 claims for payment pending or asserted by any individual
15 hospital. Upon the depletion of all funds received for a given
16 year pursuant to subdivision (5) of Section 45-2-245, the
17 board or the county commission shall have no obligation to pay
18 any other reimbursements pursuant to this section."

19 Section 2. This act shall become effective
20 immediately following its passage and approval by the
21 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.