

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE BILL NO. 170

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

HOSPITALS. Provides with respect to the definition of a rural hospital. (8/1/12)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:1300.143(7)(a)(xiv), relative to rural hospitals; to provide with respect to
3 the definition of a rural hospital; to provide with respect to reimbursements and
4 payments; to provide for effective date and application; and to provide for related
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 40:1300.143(7)(a)(xiv) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1300.143. Definitions

9 As used in this Part:

10 * * *

11 (7)(a) "Rural hospital" means a hospital licensed by the department which
12 meets one of the following criteria:

13 * * *

14 (xiv) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, is a sole community
15 hospital under 42 CFR 412.92(a), and is located, according to the latest federal
16 decennial census, in a parish with a population of no less than fifty-three
17 thousand and no more than fifty-six thousand.

1 **(aa) A rural hospital as defined in this Item shall maintain the same per**
2 **diem rates and shall not participate in the uncompensated care hospital**
3 **payments.**

4 **(bb) A rural hospital as defined in this Item shall fully participate in the**
5 **rural hospital upper payment limit program administered by the Department**
6 **of Health and Hospitals.**

7 * * *

8 Section 2. This Act shall become effective July 1, 2013, subject to additional
9 appropriation by the legislature. Any hospital affected by this Act shall participate in the
10 rural hospital upper payment limit program administered by the Department of Health and
11 Hospitals only to the extent additional funds are available which exceed the amount of funds
12 appropriated for that program for fiscal year 2012-2013.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christopher D. Adams.

DIGEST

Allain (SB 170)

Proposed law includes within the definition of a rural hospital a sole community hospital under 42 CFR 412.92 which is located within a parish whose latest federal decennial census population is no less than 53,000 and no more than 56,000. Further, a rural hospital as defined in the proposed law shall maintain the same per diem rates and shall not participate in the uncompensated care hospital payments. A rural hospital as defined in the proposed law shall fully participate in the rural hospital upper payment limit program administered by the Department of Health and Hospitals.

Proposed law provides the effective date of the proposed law shall be July 1, 2013, subject to additional appropriation by the legislature. Any hospital affected by the proposed law shall participate in the rural hospital upper payment limit program administered by the Department of Health and Hospitals only to the extent additional funds are available which exceed the amount of funds appropriated for that program for fiscal year 2012-2013.

Effective July 1, 2013.

(Adds R.S. 40:1300.143(7)(a)(xiv))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill.

1. Adds effective date of July 1, 2013.
2. Effectiveness subject to appropriation of additional funding of the legislature.

3. Provides cap on per diem rates and uncompensated care hospital payments.
4. Provides participation in rural hospital upper payment limit program.