

ENROLLED ACT NO. 52, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2008 BUDGET SESSION

AN ACT relating to medical care; extending payment program to hospitals for unreimbursed trauma care as specified; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

**Section 1.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Acute care hospital" means a hospital licensed in Wyoming pursuant to W.S. 35-2-901 through 35-2-911 and which provides acute patient care;

(ii) "Ambulance service" means an ambulance service licensed in Wyoming pursuant to W.S. 33-36-102 through 33-36-113 and which provides emergency medical transportation to hospitals or emergency rooms;

(iii) "Department" means the Wyoming department of health;

(iv) "Incident" means an admission, both inpatient and outpatient, involving traumatic care for an individual patient within a one (1) year period to a single hospital. Admissions of the same patient for causes not directly related to an earlier admission shall be considered a separate incident;

(v) "Trauma care services" means services to patients with at least one (1) injury diagnosis code, using the International Classification of Diseases, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition, from 800.0 through 904, 925 through 929, 940 through 959.9 and 994.7, plus at least one (1) of the following:

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(A) Hospitalization for one (1) calendar day;

(B) Admission to the intensive care unit or monitored bed unit;

(C) Cardiac or respiratory arrest on route to the hospital or emergency room;

(D) Dead on arrival at the facility;

(E) Transfer from or to another acute care hospital;

(F) Admission directly from the emergency room to the operating room;

(G) Trauma team activation;

(H) Meets prehospital triage criteria;

(J) Ambulance services providing patient transportation to a hospital or emergency room.

(b) Acute care hospitals or ambulance services shall be reimbursed on a per incident basis, subject to the following:

(i) There is compliance with the reporting requirements of the Wyoming trauma care program registry before the request for reimbursement;

(ii) Reimbursement shall be available for the costs incurred during the six (6) month period preceding the period subject to paragraph (iii) of this subsection;

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(iii) Requests for reimbursement may be submitted to the health department for payment only after one hundred eighty (180) days have elapsed from the date the bill for the services rendered was sent to the patient or his representative.

(c) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations to administer this program on behalf of the state of Wyoming. The rules and regulations shall include provisions for:

(i) Ensuring that reimbursements do not exceed the appropriated funds;

(ii) Limiting reimbursement to the necessary support of the poor;

(iii) Preventing duplication from this appropriation and insurance;

(iv) Reimbursing hospitals for trauma service costs and ambulance services for transporting patients to a hospital or emergency room;

(v) Ensuring that the department shall total all valid requests for reimbursement received and shall pay each applicant a share of the applicant's submitted requests in proportion to the total of the funds available, not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the available funds for the relevant grant cycle.

(d) The department may contract with a fiscal agent to make the actual payments and conduct any necessary audits of reimbursement requests. Reimbursement requests shall be made in a form and manner prescribed by the

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department. The department or its agent on its behalf may request any documentation it deems necessary to support any request for reimbursement.

(e) The department shall not reimburse any one (1) acute care hospital or ambulance service in a cumulative amount greater than twenty-five percent (25%) of the appropriation in section 2 of this act.

**Section 2.** There is appropriated to the department of health two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) from the general fund to the health department for the program set forth in section 1 of this act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this appropriation shall not be expended for any other purpose. This appropriation shall not be included in the health department's 2011-2012 standard biennial budget. No more than twenty-five percent (25%) of funding provided in this section shall be available for expenditure during any six (6) month period. The department shall by rule and regulation develop a formula, which shall not be based on a first-come first-served basis, for the allocation of grants under this act.

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**Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2008.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk