

**Bill No.:** SF0145 **Effective:** 7/1/2015

**LSO No.:** 15LSO-0539

**Enrolled Act No.:** SEA 90

**Chapter No.:** 196

**Prime Sponsor:** Peterson

**Catch Title:** Hospital uncompensated care.

**Subject:** Appropriates funds for hospitals' uncompensated care.

**Summary/Major Elements:**

- This act:
  - Establishes the uncompensated charity care account and appropriates \$2 Million from the general fund to the account, to be administered by the Department of Health to reimburse acute care hospitals for uncompensated charity care incurred between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015;
  - Requires that the appropriation be divided between small and large hospitals, with 2/3's for small hospitals and 1/3 for large hospitals;
  - Defines "acute care hospitals" and "uncompensated charity care";
  - Requires rulemaking, which shall limit reimbursements to necessary support of the poor, require applicant hospitals to report uncompensated care by July 1, 2015 and prevent duplication of payments from other payors;
  - An additional \$1 Million remaining from an appropriation to the critical access/rural hospital endowment challenge program is reappropriated to the state auditor, for a grant program for hospitals having fewer than 25 beds and cash reserves of less than 100 days of operation.
  - Includes a sunset date of June 30, 2016.