

HB 2841

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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1999



ENROLLED

House Bill No. 2841

(By Mr. Speaker, Mr. Kiss, and Delegates Martin,
Michael, Mezzatesta and Jenkins)



Passed March 13, 1999

In Effect July 1, 1999

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H. B. 2841

(BY MR. SPEAKER, MR. KISS, AND DELEGATES MARTIN,
MICHAEL, MEZZATESTA AND JENKINS)

[Passed March 13, 1999; in effect July 1, 1999.]

AN ACT to amend chapter sixteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated article five-q, relating to public health; establishing the "James 'Tiger' Morton" catastrophic illness fund; creating the "James 'Tiger' Morton" catastrophic illness commission; composition of the commission; terms of office; fund to receive gifts as well as amounts appropriated by the Legislature; expenses of the commission; reports to the Legislature.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That chapter sixteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated article five-q, to read as follows:

CHAPTER 16. PUBLIC HEALTH.

ARTICLE 5Q. THE JAMES "TIGER" MORTON CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS FUND.

§16-5Q-1. Creation of the James "Tiger" Morton Catastrophic Illness Fund.

- 1 There is hereby created in the state treasury a fund, desig-
- 2 nated the "James 'Tiger' Morton Catastrophic Illness Fund".

3 Moneys in this fund shall be distributed in accordance with the
4 provisions of this article. The purpose of this fund is to provide
5 a source of economic assistance to the citizens of this state
6 facing catastrophic illness. In addition to any funds appropri-
7 ated by the Legislature, the Tiger Morton Fund may receive
8 donations of cash or property from other sources, including
9 gifts, grants, or donations from any source whatsoever: *Pro-*
10 *vided*, That expenditures may be made from this fund only upon
11 appropriation by the Legislature.

**§16-5Q-2. Catastrophic illness commission; composition; meet-
ings.**

1 There is hereby created the catastrophic illness commission.
2 The catastrophic illness commission shall be composed of the
3 ombudsman from the department of health and human re-
4 sources, a medical doctor licensed to practice medicine in this
5 state, an attorney licensed to practice law in this state, two
6 members from the public at large who are active in community
7 affairs, a nurse licensed to practice in this state, and a social
8 worker licensed in this state. The governor shall appoint the
9 members to the catastrophic illness commission no later than
10 the thirty-first day of August, one thousand nine hundred
11 ninety-nine, and the commission shall hold its first meeting no
12 later than the last day of September, one thousand nine hundred
13 ninety-nine. The term of office for each member of the cata-
14 strophic illness commission is five years, except for the first
15 appointments to the catastrophic illness commission shall be as
16 follows: the medical doctor and attorney shall be appointed for
17 an initial term of three years; the initial term of the nurse
18 appointee and the licensed social worker appointee shall be four
19 years; the initial term of the remaining members of the commis-
20 sion shall be five years. No more than five of the members may
21 be from the same political party. Members of the catastrophic
22 illness commission may receive expenses only up to one
23 hundred twenty-five dollars per day, not to exceed fifteen
24 thousand dollars in the aggregate per year, and shall meet at
25 least quarterly. Special meetings may be called. The purpose of
26 the catastrophic illness commission is to make an annual
27 recommendation to the Legislature regarding appropriations

28 from the catastrophic illness fund. This recommendation shall
29 be made in writing to the Legislature no later than the second
30 Wednesday of January, two thousand, and the second Wednes-
31 day of each year thereafter.

[Faint handwritten signature]

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Randy Schooner
Chairman Senate Committee

Jeff Smith
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect July 1, 1999.

Barbara Roberts
Clerk of the Senate

Bryan W. King
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Earl Ray Tomblin
President of the Senate

7/11
Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within *approved* this the *8th*
day of *April*, 1999.

Paul D. Sederwood
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date

3/31/99

Time

3:50 pm