

# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1996

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HOUSE BILL No. 4137

(By Delegate Compton, Powe, Peterson  
Leach, Burke, Hutchins and Wallace)

— • —

Passed March 9, 1996

In Effect From Passage

# ENROLLED

## H. B. 4137

(BY DELEGATES COMPTON, ROWE, PETERSEN,  
LEACH, BURKE, HUTCHINS AND WALLACE)

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[Passed March 9, 1996; in effect from passage.]

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AN ACT to amend and reenact sections two, three and five, article two-d, chapter sixteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; and to amend and reenact section two, article five-f of said chapter, relating to certificate of need standards generally; clarifying certificate of need standards for hospice agencies and home health facilities; allowing conversion of certain beds at hospitals; and allowing rate and regulatory relief to be granted by the state agency.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That sections two, three and five, article two-d, chapter sixteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted; and to amend and reenact section two, article five-f of said chapter, all to read as follows:

### ARTICLE 2D. CERTIFICATE OF NEED.

#### §16-2D-2. Definitions.

1 As used in this article, unless otherwise indicated by  
2 the context:

3 (a) "Affected person" means:

4 (1) The applicant;

5 (2) An agency or organization representing consum-  
6 ers;

7 (3) Any individual residing within the geographic area  
8 served or to be served by the applicant;

9 (4) Any individual who regularly uses the health care  
10 facilities within that geographic area;

11 (5) The health care facilities which provide services  
12 similar to the services of the facility under review and  
13 which will be significantly affected by the proposed pro-  
14 ject;

15 (6) The health care facilities which, prior to receipt by  
16 the state agency of the proposal being reviewed, have  
17 formally indicated an intention to provide similar services  
18 in the future;

19 (7) Third-party payors who reimburse health care  
20 facilities similar to those proposed for services;

21 (8) Any agency which establishes rates for health care  
22 facilities similar to those proposed; or

23 (9) Organizations representing health care providers.

24 (b) "Ambulatory health care facility" means a facility  
25 which is free-standing and not physically attached to a  
26 health care facility and which provides health care to  
27 noninstitutionalized and nonhomebound persons on an  
28 outpatient basis. This definition does not include the pri-  
29 vate office practice of any one or more health profession-  
30 als licensed to practice in this state pursuant to the provi-  
31 sions of chapter thirty of this code: *Provided*, That such  
32 exemption from review of private office practice shall not  
33 be construed to include such practices where major medi-  
34 cal equipment otherwise subject to review under the provi-  
35 sions of this article is acquired, offered or developed:  
36 *Provided, however*, That such exemption from review of  
37 private office practice shall not be construed to include  
38 certain health services otherwise subject to review under  
39 the provisions of subdivision (1), subsection (a), section  
40 four of this article.

41 (c) "Ambulatory surgical facility" means a facility  
42 which is free-standing and not physically attached to a  
43 health care facility and which provides surgical treatment

44 to patients not requiring hospitalization. This definition  
45 does not include the private office practice of any one or  
46 more health professionals licensed to practice surgery in  
47 this state pursuant to the provisions of chapter thirty of  
48 this code: *Provided*, That such exemption from review of  
49 private office practice shall not be construed to include  
50 such practices where major medical equipment otherwise  
51 subject to review under the provisions of this article is  
52 acquired, offered or developed: *Provided, however*, That  
53 such exemption from review of private office practice  
54 shall not be construed to include certain health services  
55 otherwise subject to review under the provisions of subdi-  
56 vision (1), subsection (a), section four of this article.

57 (d) "Applicant" means: (1) The governing body or the  
58 person proposing a new institutional health service who is,  
59 or will be, the health care facility licensee wherein the new  
60 institutional health service is proposed to be located, and  
61 (2) in the case of a proposed new institutional health ser-  
62 vice not to be located in a licensed health care facility, the  
63 governing body or the person proposing to provide such  
64 new institutional health service. Incorporators or promot-  
65 ers who will not constitute the governing body or persons  
66 responsible for the new institutional health service may not  
67 be an applicant.

68 (e) "Bed capacity" means the number of beds for  
69 which a license is issued to a health care facility, or, if a  
70 facility is unlicensed, the number of adult and pediatric  
71 beds permanently staffed and maintained for immediate  
72 use by inpatients in patient rooms or wards.

73 (f) "Capital expenditure" means an expenditure:

74 (1) Made by or on behalf of a health care facility; and

75 (2) (A) Which (i) under generally accepted accounting  
76 principles is not properly chargeable as an expense of  
77 operation and maintenance, or (ii) is made to obtain either  
78 by lease or comparable arrangement any facility or part  
79 thereof or any equipment for a facility or part; and (B)  
80 which (i) exceeds the expenditure minimum, or (ii) is a  
81 substantial change to the bed capacity of the facility with  
82 respect to which the expenditure is made, or (iii) is a sub-

83   stantial change to the services of such facility. For purpos-  
84   es of subparagraph (i), paragraph (B), subdivision (2) of  
85   this definition, the cost of any studies, surveys, designs,  
86   plans, working drawings, specifications, and other activi-  
87   ties, including staff effort and consulting and other servic-  
88   es, essential to the acquisition, improvement, expansion, or  
89   replacement of any plant or equipment with respect to  
90   which an expenditure described in paragraph (B), subdivi-  
91   sion (2) of this definition is made shall be included in  
92   determining if such expenditure exceeds the expenditure  
93   minimum. Donations of equipment or facilities to a health  
94   care facility which if acquired directly by such facility  
95   would be subject to review shall be considered capital  
96   expenditures, and a transfer of equipment or facilities for  
97   less than fair market value shall be considered a capital  
98   expenditure for purposes of such subdivisions if a transfer  
99   of the equipment or facilities at fair market value would be  
100   subject to review. A series of expenditures, each less than  
101   the expenditure minimum, which when taken together are  
102   in excess of the expenditure minimum, may be deter-  
103   mined by the state agency to be a single capital expendi-  
104   ture subject to review. In making its determination, the  
105   state agency shall consider: Whether the expenditures are  
106   for components of a system which is required to accom-  
107   plish a single purpose; whether the expenditures are to be  
108   made over a two-year period and are directed towards the  
109   accomplishment of a single goal within the health care  
110   facility's long-range plan; or whether the expenditures are  
111   to be made within a two-year period within a single de-  
112   partment such that they will constitute a significant mod-  
113   ernization of the department.

114       (g) "Expenditure minimum" means seven hundred  
115   fifty thousand dollars per fiscal year.

116       (h) "Health," used as a term, includes physical and  
117   mental health.

118       (i) "Health care facility" is defined as including hospi-  
119   tals, skilled nursing facilities, kidney disease treatment  
120   centers, including free-standing hemodialysis units, inter-  
121   mediate care facilities, ambulatory health care facilities,  
122   ambulatory surgical facilities, home health agencies, hos-

123 pice agencies, rehabilitation facilities and health mainte-  
124 nance organizations; community mental health and mental  
125 retardation facilities, whether under public or private own-  
126 ership, or as a profit or nonprofit organization and wheth-  
127 er or not licensed or required to be licensed in whole or in  
128 part by the state. For purposes of this definition, "commu-  
129 nity mental health and mental retardation facility" means a  
130 private facility which provides such comprehensive servic-  
131 es and continuity of care as emergency, outpatient, partial  
132 hospitalization, inpatient and consultation and education  
133 for individuals with mental illness, mental retardation or  
134 drug or alcohol addiction.

135 (j) "Health care provider" means a person, partnership,  
136 corporation, facility or institution licensed or certified or  
137 authorized by law to provide professional health care  
138 service in this state to an individual during that individual's  
139 medical care, treatment or confinement.

140 (k) "Health maintenance organization" means a public  
141 or private organization, organized under the laws of this  
142 state, which:

143 (1) Is a qualified health maintenance organization  
144 under Section 1310(d) of the Public Health Service Act, as  
145 amended, Title 42 United States Code Section 300e-9(d);  
146 or

147 (2) (A) Provides or otherwise makes available to en-  
148 rolled participants health care services, including substan-  
149 tially the following basic health care services: Usual physi-  
150 cian services, hospitalization, laboratory, X ray, emergency  
151 and preventive services and out-of-area coverage; and

152 (B) Is compensated except for copayments for the  
153 provision of the basic health care services listed in para-  
154 graph (A), subdivision (2), subsection (k) of this definition  
155 to enrolled participants on a predetermined periodic rate  
156 basis without regard to the date the health care services are  
157 provided and which is fixed without regard to the frequen-  
158 cy, extent or kind of health service actually provided; and

159 (C) Provides physicians' services primarily (i) directly  
160 through physicians who are either employees or partners

161 of such organization, or (ii) through arrangements with  
162 individual physicians or one or more groups of physicians  
163 organized on a group practice or individual practice basis.

164 (l) "Health services" means clinically related preven-  
165 tive, diagnostic, treatment or rehabilitative services, includ-  
166 ing alcohol, drug abuse and mental health services.

167 (m) "Home health agency" is an organization primari-  
168 ly engaged in providing professional nursing services  
169 either directly or through contract arrangements and at  
170 least one of the following services: Home health aide ser-  
171 vices, other therapeutic services, physical therapy, speech  
172 therapy, occupational therapy, nutritional services or med-  
173 ical social services to persons in their place of residence on  
174 a part-time or intermittent basis.

175 (n) "Hospice agency" means a private or public agen-  
176 cy or organization licensed in West Virginia for the ad-  
177 ministration or provision of hospice care services to termi-  
178 nally ill persons in such persons' temporary or permanent  
179 residences by using an interdisciplinary team, including, at  
180 a minimum, persons qualified to perform nursing, social  
181 work services, the general practice of medicine or osteopa-  
182 thy and pastoral or spiritual counseling.

183 (o) "Hospital" means an institution which is primarily  
184 engaged in providing to inpatients, by or under the super-  
185 vision of physicians, diagnostic and therapeutic services  
186 for medical diagnosis, treatment, and care of injured, dis-  
187 abled or sick persons, or rehabilitation services for the  
188 rehabilitation of injured, disabled or sick persons. This  
189 term also includes psychiatric and tuberculosis hospitals.

190 (p) "Intermediate care facility" means an institution  
191 which provides, on a regular basis, health-related care and  
192 services to individuals who do not require the degree of  
193 care and treatment which a hospital or skilled nursing  
194 facility is designed to provide, but who, because of their  
195 mental or physical condition, require health-related care  
196 and services above the level of room and board.

197 (q) "Long-range plan" means a document formally  
198 adopted by the legally constituted governing body of an

199 existing health care facility or by a person proposing a  
200 new institutional health service. Each long-range plan shall  
201 consist of the information required by the state agency in  
202 regulations adopted pursuant to section eight of this arti-  
203 cle.

204 (r) "Major medical equipment" means a single unit of  
205 medical equipment or a single system of components with  
206 related functions which is used for the provision of medi-  
207 cal and other health services and which costs in excess of  
208 three hundred thousand dollars, except that such term  
209 does not include medical equipment acquired by or on  
210 behalf of a clinical laboratory to provide clinical laborato-  
211 ry services if the clinical laboratory is independent of a  
212 physician's office and a hospital and it has been deter-  
213 mined under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to  
214 meet the requirements of paragraphs ten and eleven of  
215 Section 1861(s) of such act, Title 42 United States Code  
216 Sections 1395x (10) and (11). In determining whether  
217 medical equipment costs more than three hundred thou-  
218 sand dollars, the cost of studies, surveys, designs, plans,  
219 working drawings, specifications, and other activities es-  
220 sential to the acquisition of such equipment shall be in-  
221 cluded. If the equipment is acquired for less than fair  
222 market value, the term "cost" includes the fair market val-  
223 ue.

224 (s) "Medically underserved population" means the  
225 population of an urban or rural area designated by the  
226 state agency as an area with a shortage of personal health  
227 services or a population having a shortage of such services,  
228 after taking into account unusual local conditions which  
229 are a barrier to accessibility or availability of such services.  
230 Such designation shall be in regulations adopted by the  
231 state agency pursuant to section eight of this article, and  
232 the population so designated may include the state's medi-  
233 cally underserved population designated by the Federal  
234 Secretary of Health and Human Services under Section  
235 330(b)(3) of the Public Health Service Act, as amended,  
236 Title 42 United States Code Section 254(b)(3).

237 (t) "New institutional health service" means such ser-  
238 vice as described in section three of this article.



239 (u) "Offer", when used in connection with health ser-  
240 vices, means that the health care facility or health mainte-  
241 nance organization holds itself out as capable of provid-  
242 ing, or as having the means for the provision of, specified  
243 health services.

244 (v) "Person" means an individual, trust, estate, partner-  
245 ship, committee, corporation, association and other organi-  
246 zations such as joint-stock companies and insurance com-  
247 panies, a state or a political subdivision or instrumentality  
248 thereof or any legal entity recognized by the state.

249 (w) "Physician" means a doctor of medicine or oste-  
250 opathy legally authorized to practice by the state.

251 (x) "Proposed new institutional health service" means  
252 such service as described in section three of this article.

253 (y) "Psychiatric hospital" means an institution which  
254 primarily provides to inpatients, by or under the supervi-  
255 sion of a physician, specialized services for the diagnosis,  
256 treatment and rehabilitation of mentally ill and emotional-  
257 ly disturbed persons.

258 (z) "Rehabilitation facility" means an inpatient facility  
259 which is operated for the primary purpose of assisting in  
260 the rehabilitation of disabled persons through an integrat-  
261 ed program of medical and other services which are pro-  
262 vided under competent professional supervision.

263 (aa) "Review agency" means an agency of the state,  
264 designated by the governor as the agency for the review of  
265 state agency decisions.

266 (bb) "Skilled nursing facility" means an institution or  
267 a distinct part of an institution which is primarily engaged  
268 in providing to inpatients skilled nursing care and related  
269 services for patients who require medical or nursing care,  
270 or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of injured,  
271 disabled or sick persons.

272 (cc) "State agency" means the health care cost review  
273 authority created, established, and continued pursuant to  
274 article twenty-nine-b of this chapter.

275 (dd) "State health plan" means the document ap-

276 proved by the governor after preparation by the former  
277 statewide health coordinating council, or that document as  
278 approved by the governor after amendment by the health  
279 care planning council or its successor agency.

280 (ee) "Health care planning council" means the body  
281 established by section five-a of this article to participate in  
282 the preparation and amendment of the state health plan  
283 and to advise the state agency.

284 (ff) "Substantial change to the bed capacity" of a  
285 health care facility means any change, with which a capital  
286 expenditure is associated, that increases or decreases the  
287 bed capacity, or relocates beds from one physical facility  
288 or site to another, but does not include a change by which  
289 a health care facility reassigns existing beds as swing beds  
290 between acute care and long-term care categories: *Provid-*  
291 *ed*, That a decrease in bed capacity in response to federal  
292 rural health initiatives shall be excluded from this defini-  
293 tion.

294 (gg) "Substantial change to the health services" of a  
295 health care facility means the addition of a health service  
296 which is offered by or on behalf of the health care facility  
297 and which was not offered by or on behalf of the facility  
298 within the twelve-month period before the month in which  
299 the service is first offered, or the termination of a health  
300 service which was offered by or on behalf of the facility:  
301 *Provided*, That "substantial change to the health services"  
302 does not include the providing of ambulance service,  
303 wellness centers or programs, adult day care, or respite  
304 care by acute care facilities.

305 (hh) "To develop", when used in connection with  
306 health services, means to undertake those activities which  
307 upon their completion will result in the offer of a new  
308 institutional health service or the incurring of a financial  
309 obligation, in relation to the offering of such a service.

**§16-2D-3. Certificate of need; new institutional health services defined.**

1 (a) Except as provided in section four of this article,  
2 any new institutional health service may not be acquired,  
3 offered or developed within this state except upon applica-

4 tion for and receipt of a certificate of need as provided by  
5 this article. Whenever a new institutional health service for  
6 which a certificate of need is required by this article is  
7 proposed for a health care facility for which, pursuant to  
8 section four of this article, no certificate of need is or was  
9 required, a certificate of need shall be issued before the  
10 new institutional health service is offered or developed.  
11 No person may knowingly charge or bill for any health  
12 services associated with any new institutional health service  
13 that is knowingly acquired, offered or developed in viola-  
14 tion of this article, and any bill made in violation of this  
15 section is legally unenforceable.

16 (b) For purposes of this article, a proposed "new insti-  
17 tutional health service" includes:

18 (1) The construction, development, acquisition or  
19 other establishment of a new health care facility or health  
20 maintenance organization;

21 (2) The partial or total closure of a health care facility  
22 or health maintenance organization with which a capital  
23 expenditure is associated;

24 (3) Any obligation for a capital expenditure incurred  
25 by or on behalf of a health care facility, except as exempt-  
26 ed in section four of this article, or health maintenance  
27 organization in excess of the expenditure minimum or  
28 any obligation for a capital expenditure incurred by any  
29 person to acquire a health care facility. An obligation for  
30 a capital expenditure is considered to be incurred by or on  
31 behalf of a health care facility;

32 (A) When a contract, enforceable under state law, is  
33 entered into by or on behalf of the health care facility for  
34 the construction, acquisition, lease or financing of a capital  
35 asset;

36 (B) When the governing board of the health care  
37 facility takes formal action to commit its own funds for a  
38 construction project undertaken by the health care facility  
39 as its own contractor; or

40 (C) In the case of donated property, on the date on  
41 which the gift is completed under state law;

42 (4) A substantial change to the bed capacity of a  
43 health care facility with which a capital expenditure is  
44 associated;

45 (5) The addition of health services which are offered  
46 by or on behalf of a health care facility or health mainte-  
47 nance organization and which were not offered on a regu-  
48 lar basis by or on behalf of the health care facility or  
49 health maintenance organization within the twelve-month  
50 period prior to the time the services would be offered;

51 (6) The addition of ventilator services for any nursing  
52 facility bed by any health care facility or health mainte-  
53 nance organization;

54 (7) The deletion of one or more health services, previ-  
55 ously offered on a regular basis by or on behalf of a  
56 health care facility or health maintenance organization  
57 which is associated with a capital expenditure;

58 (8) A substantial change to the bed capacity or health  
59 services offered by or on behalf of a health care facility,  
60 whether or not the change is associated with a proposed  
61 capital expenditure, if the change is associated with a pre-  
62 vious capital expenditure for which a certificate of need  
63 was issued and if the change will occur within two years  
64 after the date the activity which was associated with the  
65 previously approved capital expenditure was undertaken;

66 (9) The acquisition of major medical equipment;

67 (10) A substantial change in an approved new institu-  
68 tional health service for which a certificate of need is in  
69 effect. For purposes of this subsection, "substantial  
70 change" shall be defined by the state agency in regulations  
71 adopted pursuant to section eight of this article; or

72 (11) An expansion of the service area for hospice or  
73 home health service, regardless of the time period in which  
74 the expansion is contemplated or made.

**§16-2D-5. Powers and duties of state agency.**

1 (a) The state agency is hereby empowered to adminis-  
2 ter the certificate of need program as provided by this  
3 article.

4 (b) The state agency shall be responsible for coordi-  
5 nating and developing the health planning research efforts  
6 of the state and for amending and modifying the state  
7 health plan which includes the certificate of need stan-  
8 dards.

9 (c) The state agency may seek advice and assistance of  
10 other persons, organizations and other state agencies in the  
11 performance of the state agency's responsibilities under  
12 this article.

13 (d) For health services for which competition appro-  
14 priately allocates supply consistent with the state health  
15 plan, the state agency shall, in the performance of its func-  
16 tions under this article, give priority, where appropriate to  
17 advance the purposes of quality assurance, cost effective-  
18 ness and access, to actions which would strengthen the  
19 effect of competition on the supply of such services.

20 (e) For health services for which competition does not  
21 or will not appropriately allocate supply consistent with  
22 the state health plan, the state agency shall, in the exercise  
23 of its functions under this article, take actions, where ap-  
24 propriate to advance the purposes of quality assurance,  
25 cost effectiveness and access and the other purposes of this  
26 article, to allocate the supply of such services.

27 (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of section seven of  
28 this article, the state agency may charge a fee for the filing  
29 of any application, the filing of any notice in lieu of an  
30 application, the filing of any exemption determination  
31 request or the filing of any request for a declaratory rul-  
32 ing. The fees charged may vary according to the type of  
33 matter involved, the type of health service or facility in-  
34 volved or the amount of capital expenditure involved. The  
35 state agency shall implement this subsection by filing  
36 procedural rules pursuant to chapter twenty-nine-a of this  
37 code. The fees charged shall be deposited into a special  
38 fund known as the certificate of need program fund to be  
39 expended for the purposes of this article.

40 (g) No hospital, nursing home or other health care  
41 facility shall add any intermediate care or skilled nursing  
42 beds to its current licensed bed complement. This prohibi-

tion also applies to the conversion of acute care or other types of beds to intermediate care or skilled nursing beds: *Provided*, That hospitals eligible under the provisions of section four-a and subsection (i), section five of this article may convert acute care beds to skilled nursing beds in accordance with the provisions of these sections, upon approval by the state agency. Furthermore, no certificate of need shall be granted for the construction or addition of any intermediate care or skilled nursing beds except in the case of facilities designed to replace existing beds in unsafe existing facilities. A health care facility in receipt of a certificate of need for the construction or addition of intermediate care or skilled nursing beds which was approved prior to the effective date of this section must incur an obligation for a capital expenditure within twelve months of the date of issuance of the certificate of need. No extensions shall be granted beyond the twelve-month period: *Provided, however*, That a maximum of sixty beds may be approved, as a demonstration project, by the state agency for a unit to provide nursing services to patients with alzheimer's disease if: (1) The unit is located in an existing facility which was formerly owned and operated by the state of West Virginia and is presently owned by a county of the state of West Virginia; (2) the facility has provided health care services, including personal care services, within one year prior to the effective date of this section; (3) the facility demonstrates that awarding the certificate of need and operating the facility will be cost effective for the state; and (4) that any applicable lease, lease-purchase or contract for operating the facility was awarded through a process of competitive bidding consistent with state purchasing practices and procedures: *Provided further*, That an application for said demonstration project shall be filed with the state agency on or before the twenty-first day of October, one thousand nine hundred ninety-three.

(h) No additional intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded (ICF/MR) beds shall be granted a certificate of need, except that prohibition does not apply to ICF/MR beds approved under the Kanawha County circuit court order of the third day of August, one thousand nine

84 hundred eighty-nine, civil action number MISC-81-585  
85 issued in the case of *E. H. v. Matin*, 168 W.V. 248, 284  
86 S.E.2d 232 (1981).

87 (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (g),  
88 section five of this article and, further notwithstanding the  
89 provisions of subsection (d), section three of this article, an  
90 existing acute care hospital may apply to the health care  
91 cost review authority for a certificate of need to convert  
92 acute care beds to skilled nursing beds: *Provided*, That the  
93 proposed skilled nursing beds are medicare certified only:  
94 *Provided, however*, That any hospital which converts acute  
95 care beds to medicare certified only skilled nursing beds is  
96 prohibited from billing for any medicaid reimbursement  
97 for any beds so converted. In converting beds, the hospital  
98 must convert a minimum of one acute care bed into one  
99 medicare certified only skilled nursing bed. The health  
100 care cost review authority may require a hospital to con-  
101 vert up to and including three acute care beds for each  
102 medicare certified only skilled nursing bed: *Provided*,  
103 That a hospital designated or provisionally designated by  
104 the state agency as a rural primary care hospital may con-  
105 vert up to thirty beds to a distinct-part nursing facility,  
106 including skilled nursing beds and intermediate care beds,  
107 on a one-for-one basis if said rural primary care hospital  
108 is located in a county without a certified free-standing  
109 nursing facility and the hospital may bill for medicaid  
110 reimbursement for the converted beds: *Provided, however*,  
111 that if the hospital rejects the designation as a rural prima-  
112 ry care hospital then the hospital may not bill for medic-  
113 aid reimbursement. The health care cost review authority  
114 shall adopt rules to implement this subsection which re-  
115 quire that:

116 (1) All acute care beds converted shall be permanently  
117 deleted from the hospital's acute care bed complement and  
118 the hospital may not thereafter add, by conversion or  
119 otherwise, acute care beds to its bed complement without  
120 satisfying the requirements of subsection (d), section three  
121 of this article for which purposes such an addition, wheth-  
122 er by conversion or otherwise, shall be considered a sub-  
123 stantial change to the bed capacity of the hospital notwith-  
124 standing the definition of that term found in subsection

125 (ee), section two of this article.

126 (2) The hospital shall meet all federal and state licens-  
127 ing certification and operational requirements applicable  
128 to nursing homes including a requirement that all skilled  
129 care beds created under this subsection shall be located in  
130 distinct-part, long-term care units.

131 (3) The hospital must demonstrate a need for the pro-  
132 ject.

133 (4) The hospital must use existing space for the medi-  
134 care certified only skilled nursing beds. Under no circum-  
135 stances shall the hospital construct, lease or acquire addi-  
136 tional space for purposes of this section.

137 (5) The hospital must notify the acute care patient,  
138 prior to discharge, of facilities with skilled nursing beds  
139 which are located in or near the patient's county of resi-  
140 dence.

141 Nothing in this subsection shall negatively affect the  
142 rights of inspection and certification which are otherwise  
143 required by federal law or regulations or by this code of  
144 duly adopted regulations of an authorized state entity.

145 (j) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (g) of  
146 this section, a retirement life care center with no skilled  
147 nursing beds may apply to the health care cost review  
148 authority for a certificate of need for up to sixty skilled  
149 nursing beds provided the proposed skilled beds are medi-  
150 care certified only. On a statewide basis, a maximum of  
151 one hundred eighty skilled beds which are medicare certi-  
152 fied only may be developed pursuant to this subsection.  
153 The state health plan shall not be applicable to projects  
154 submitted under this subsection. The health care cost re-  
155 view authority shall adopt rules to implement this subsec-  
156 tion which shall include:

157 (1) A requirement that the one hundred eighty beds  
158 are to be distributed on a statewide basis;

159 (2) There shall be a minimum of twenty beds and a  
160 maximum of sixty beds in each approved unit;

161 (3) The unit developed by the retirement life care



162 center shall meet all federal and state licensing certifica-  
163 tion and operational requirements applicable to nursing  
164 homes;

165 (4) The retirement center must demonstrate a need for  
166 the project;

167 (5) The retirement center must offer personal care,  
168 home health services and other lower levels of care to its  
169 residents; and

170 (6) The retirement center must demonstrate both short  
171 and long-term financial feasibility.

172 Nothing in this subsection shall negatively affect the  
173 rights of inspection and certification which are otherwise  
174 required by federal law or regulations or by this code of  
175 duly adopted regulations of an authorized state entity.

176 (k) The provisions of this article are severable and if  
177 any provision, section or part thereby shall be held invalid,  
178 unconstitutional or inapplicable to any person or circum-  
179 stance, such invalidity, unconstitutionality or inapplicabili-  
180 ty shall not affect or impair any other remaining provi-  
181 sions contained herein.

182 (l) The state agency is hereby empowered to order a  
183 moratorium upon the processing of an application or  
184 applications for the development of a new institutional  
185 health service filed pursuant to section three of this article,  
186 when criteria and guidelines for evaluating the need for  
187 such new institutional health service have not yet been  
188 adopted or are obsolete. Such moratorium shall be de-  
189 clared by a written order which shall detail the circum-  
190 stances requiring the moratorium. Upon the adoption of  
191 criteria for evaluating the need for the new institutional  
192 health service affected by the moratorium, or one hundred  
193 eighty days from the declaration of a moratorium, which-  
194 ever is less, the moratorium shall be declared to be over  
195 and affected applications shall be processed pursuant to  
196 section six of this article.

197 (m) The state agency shall coordinate the collection of  
198 information needed to allow the state agency to develop

199 recommended modifications to certificate of need stan-  
200 dards as required in this article. When the state agency  
201 proposes amendments or modifications to the certificate  
202 of need standards, they shall file with the secretary of state,  
203 for publication in the state register, a notice of proposed  
204 action, including the text of all proposed amendments and  
205 modifications, and a date, time and place for receipt of  
206 general public comment. To comply with the public com-  
207 ment requirement of this section, the state agency may  
208 hold a public hearing or schedule a public comment peri-  
209 od for the receipt of written statements or documents.

210 All proposed amendments and modifications to the  
211 certificate of need standards, with a record of the public  
212 hearing or written statements and documents received  
213 pursuant to a public comment period, shall be presented to  
214 the governor. Within thirty days of receiving said pro-  
215 posed amendments or modifications, the governor shall  
216 either approve or disapprove all or part of said amend-  
217 ments and modifications, and, for any portion of amend-  
218 ments or modifications not approved, shall specify the  
219 reason or reasons for nonapproval. Any portions of the  
220 amendments or modifications not approved by the gover-  
221 nor may be revised and resubmitted.

222 (n) The state agency may exempt from or expedite  
223 rate review, certificate of need, and annual assessment  
224 requirements and issue grants and loans to financially  
225 vulnerable health care facilities located in underserved  
226 areas that the state agency and the office of community  
227 and rural health services determine are collaborating with  
228 other providers in the service area to provide cost effective  
229 health care services.

#### **ARTICLE 5F. HEALTH CARE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.**

##### **§16-5F-2. Definitions.**

1 As used in this article:

2 (1) "Annual report" means an annual financial report  
3 for the covered facility's or related organization's fiscal  
4 year prepared by an accountant or the covered facility's or  
5 related organization's auditor.

6       (2) "Board" means the West Virginia health care cost  
7 review authority.

8       (3) "Covered facility" means any hospital, skilled nurs-  
9 ing facility, kidney disease treatment center, including a  
10 free-standing hemodialysis unit; intermediate care facility;  
11 ambulatory health care facility; ambulatory surgical facili-  
12 ty; home health agency; hospice agency; rehabilitation  
13 facility; health maintenance organization; or community  
14 mental health or mental retardation facility, whether under  
15 public or private ownership or as a profit or nonprofit  
16 organization and whether or not licensed or required to be  
17 licensed in whole or in part by the state: *Provided, That*  
18 nonprofit, community-based primary care centers provid-  
19 ing primary care services without regard to ability to pay  
20 who provide the board with a year-end audited financial  
21 statement prepared in accordance with generally accepted  
22 auditing standards and with governmental auditing stan-  
23 dards issued by the comptroller general of the United  
24 States shall be deemed to have complied with the disclo-  
25 sure requirements of this section.

26       (4) "Related organization" means an organization,  
27 whether publicly owned, nonprofit, tax-exempt or for  
28 profit, related to a covered facility through common mem-  
29 bership, governing bodies, trustees, officers, stock owner-  
30 ship, family members, partners or limited partners, includ-  
31 ing, but not limited to, subsidiaries, foundations, related  
32 corporations and joint ventures. For the purposes of this  
33 subdivision "family members" shall mean brothers and  
34 sisters whether by the whole or half blood, spouse, ances-  
35 tors and lineal descendants.

36       (5) "Rates" means all rates, fees or charges imposed by  
37 any covered facility for health care services.

38       (6) "Records" includes accounts, books, charts, con-  
39 tracts, documents, files, maps, papers, profiles, reports,  
40 annual and otherwise, schedules and any other fiscal data,  
41 however recorded or stored.

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

*Randy Schoonover*  
Chairman Senate Committee

*Randy Seavert*  
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect from passage.

*Darrell E. White*  
Clerk of the Senate

*Brianna M. Barry*  
Clerk of the House of Delegates

*Earl Ray Tomblin*  
President of the Senate

*Robert C. Holden*  
Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within *is approved* this the *19th*  
day of *March*, 1996.

*Gaston Caperton*  
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date 3/19/96

Time 3:25 pm