

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1644

By: Ervin of the House

and

Robinson of the Senate

(University Hospitals - amending 43A O.S., Section 3-701 -
hospital services for inmates of correctional
institutions - amending 63 O.S., Section 3203 -
effective date)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 43A O.S. 1991, Section 3-701, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 3-701. It shall be the responsibility of the Department
of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, within facilities and
professional capabilities, to provide at Griffin Memorial Hospital,
Norman, Oklahoma, such medical and surgical inpatient and outpatient
care as may be required by inmates from the several correctional
institutions that are properly referred to the hospital by the
Department of Corrections. The Department of Mental Health and
Substance Abuse Services may refer to the ~~Oklahoma Memorial Hospital~~
University Hospitals, and the latter shall accept those correctional
inmate patients who are beyond the facilities and professional
capability of Griffin Memorial Hospital. The Department of
Corrections shall be responsible for transporting to, from, and
between hospitals and for providing such physical security of
correctional inmate patients as may be required beyond that security

normal to hospital operation. The Department of Corrections shall immediately remove from the hospital those inmate patients as they are discharged by the hospital. The hospital services provided by Griffin Memorial Hospital and the ~~Oklahoma Memorial Hospital~~ University Hospitals shall be without cost to the Department of Corrections.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 330, O.S.L. 1993, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 263, O.S.L. 1995 (63 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 3203), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3203. A. The purposes of the University Hospitals Authority Act are to provide for an effective and efficient administration, to ensure a dependable source of funding, and to effectuate the mission and purposes of the University Hospitals Authority. The mission and purposes of the University Hospitals Authority are to serve as general hospitals, to serve as teaching and training facilities for students enrolled at the University of Oklahoma, to serve as a site for conducting medical and biomedical research by faculty members of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and to provide care for the medically indigent. The University Hospitals shall maintain a close affiliation with the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and shall coordinate their operations and activities in a cooperative manner. In addition, the University Hospitals shall provide indigent and nonindigent patient care, as more fully described herein.

B. The Legislature finds that the needs of the citizens of this state and the needs of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center will be best served if the University Hospitals are operated by a separate authority charged with the mission of operating or leasing the operations of the teaching hospitals for the benefit of the colleges of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and providing care for the medically indigent.

C. The Authority by receiving the assets and operating obligations shall ensure that the costs of delivering medically indigent care continue to be subsidized in excess of the state reimbursement for the medically indigent, consistent with the teaching hospitals' past policy and performance and that of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. The Authority shall make or cause to be made every reasonable effort to continue the hospitals' historic commitment to the provision of uncompensated care and that the allocation and investment of resources shall be made with a view to maximizing the hospitals' long-term ability to provide uncompensated care, except as may be modified by changes in federal or state law. The University Hospitals Authority shall ensure that indigent care provided by the University Hospitals during a fiscal year shall be equal to or exceed one hundred twenty percent (120%) of the annual appropriation to the University Hospitals Authority. The level of indigent care provided shall be based on Medicare costs as determined by the most recent report filed by any operating entity of the University Hospitals with the federal Health Care Finance Administration.

D. As used in this section, "indigent care" means charity care, Medicaid contractual allowances, all debt arising from accounts for which there is no third-party coverage including services provided to the Department of Corrections pursuant to Section 3-701 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes and Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services as otherwise required by law. For purposes of this subsection, third-party coverage shall not include Medicaid coverage.

E. The Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma shall retain full power to govern the personnel, curriculum and facilities of the University of Oklahoma.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 1997.

Passed the House of Representatives the 10th day of March, 1997.

Speaker

of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1997.

President

of the Senate