

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1101

By: Ervin

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution directing the State Department of Health to prepare and submit a certain state plan related to critical access hospitals; directing consultation with certain parties; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, community hospitals are essential to access necessary medical services and the health of Oklahoma citizens; and

WHEREAS, Medicare requirements and the prospective payment system, and changes in private sector delivery of health care services have placed enormous burdens on local hospitals, even to the point of causing the closure of some community hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997 creates the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, which authorizes substantial flexibility in community hospital services while maintaining Medicare certification for hospitals designated as "critical access hospitals" or "necessary providers"; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma may have up to 30 community hospitals that would benefit from designation as critical access hospitals and up to 11 that may be eligible for designation as necessary providers; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Department of Health is the administrative agency responsible for any application for participation in this program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the State Department of Health shall prepare and submit a rural health care plan for the designation of critical access hospitals in accordance with the requirements of the federal Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program.

THAT the Department shall ensure that preparation of the plan is completed in consultation with the State Office of Rural Health, the state hospital association, rural hospitals, and the Legislative and Executive branches of the state, as well as representatives of medical or health care organizations within the state, as appropriate.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the State Board of Health, the State Commissioner of Health, the Oklahoma Hospital Association, the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, the Oklahoma Nurses Association and the United States Secretary for Health and Human Services.

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