

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

SENATE BILL 517

By: Eason McIntyre

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to medical care; amending Section 21, Chapter 3, O.S.L. 2002, as last amended by Section 27, Chapter 46, O.S.L. 2003 (43A O.S. Supp. 2004, Section 3-701a), which relates to inmate medical care; requiring certain hospitals and healthcare providers to accept inmates; setting reimbursement at Medicaid rate; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 21, Chapter 3, O.S.L. 2002, as last amended by Section 27, Chapter 46, O.S.L. 2003 (43A O.S. Supp. 2004, Section 3-701a), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3-701a. A. 1. On and after February 1, 2002, it shall be the responsibility of the Department of Corrections or the primary medical contract provider of the Department of Corrections to provide such medical and surgical inpatient and outpatient care as may be required by inmates of the Department of Corrections. The Department or the primary medical contract provider of the Department may refer to the University Hospitals, and the University Hospitals shall accept, those inmate patients who need services, as determined by the Department of Corrections to be beyond the professional capabilities of the Department of Corrections or the primary medical contract provider of the Department of Corrections.

2. The primary medical contract provider shall be a hospital as defined in Section 1-701 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and shall be the source of initial referrals, and diagnosis and treatment where appropriate for inmate care from the Department of Corrections. The Director of the Department of Corrections shall

designate the primary medical contract provider for the Department of Corrections.

B. Any hospital or other healthcare provider that receives payments from the State of Oklahoma pursuant to any Oklahoma Medicaid program shall accept those correctional inmate patients who are determined by the Department of Corrections or the primary medical contract provider of the Department to be beyond the professional capabilities of the Department or it's contractor, and shall be reimbursed by the Department at the same fee schedule that applies to patients under the Medicaid program, notwithstanding the provisions of subsection D of this section.

C. The Department of Corrections shall be responsible for transporting to, from, and between hospitals and for providing such physical security of 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 each is discharged by the hospital.

~~C.~~ D. The hospital services provided by Griffin Memorial Hospital and the University Hospitals shall be without cost to the Department of Corrections.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.