

Act 61 of the 1989 Regular Session.

Act 61

HB1043

By: Joint Budget Committee

"AN ACT TO MAKE A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES-ECONOMIC AND MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION FOR ASSISTING RURAL HOSPITALS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1989; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated, to be payable from the Department of Human Services Grants Fund Account, to the Economic and Medical Services Division of the Arkansas Department of Human Services for the purpose of defraying the State's share of the additional costs of medical services for Medicaid recipients in Arkansas rural hospitals which have fewer than 100 licensed beds or rural hospitals that have an average daily census of fifty (50) or less as determined by the previous year's Medicare cost report filed with the Department of Human Services, which such appropriation shall be supplemental and in addition to other appropriations available for such purpose, of the for the remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1989, the sum of \$500,000.

SECTION 2. Such funds and appropriation as provided in this Act shall be used exclusively for the purposes enumerated herein after approval by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and shall not be available for transfer for any other purpose or program.

SECTION 3. The Department of Human Services shall, on the effective date of this Act, make such funds available as are required to fund the appropriation provided herein from any funds that may be available to the Department of Human Services. To accomplish this purpose, the Department of Human Services may transfer any funds that are available for any program of the Department of Human Services to the Department of Human Services Grant Fund Account up to a maximum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as is required to provide funds as appropriated herein.

SECTION 4. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 5. It is hereby found and determined by the Seventy-Seventh General Assembly that small rural hospitals in the State are essential for the well being of our citizens; that discriminatory costs reimbursement practices cause great economic hardships on these vital health care providers; that health should not be a function of income; and that the State of Arkansas has a duty to its citizens to provide for the availability of health care services. Therefore, this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act shall take effect and full force from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: February 15, 1989
