

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL  
No. 1589 Session of  
2005

INTRODUCED BY MAJOR, HERMAN, SONNEY, BAKER, HANNA, STERN,  
CAUSER, PICKETT, RAPP AND FEESE, MAY 12, 2005

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, IN SENATE, JULY 2, 2005

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 30, 2003 (P.L.15, No.7), entitled "An  
2 act designating political subdivisions as rural areas for  
3 purposes of Medicare hospital service payments," further  
4 providing for designation of hospitals.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 2 of the act of June 30, 2003 (P.L.15,  
8 No.7), known as the Medicare Hospital Service Payment  
9 Designation Act, is amended to read:

10 Section 2. Designation.

11 ~~For purposes of payments to:~~

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12 ~~(1) hospitals for inpatient or outpatient hospital~~  
13 ~~services under section 1886 of the Social Security Act (49~~  
14 ~~Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. § 1395ww)(,);~~

15 ~~(2) hospitals designated as Medicare dependent hospitals~~  
16 ~~as of April 30, 2002, or Critical Access hospitals as of~~  
17 ~~[September 30, 2000,] December 31, 2005;~~

18 ~~(3) hospitals located in a census tract with rural urban~~

~~commuting area codes 4 through 10 established by the United States Department of Agriculture; and~~

~~(4) hospitals with 50 or fewer beds that serve at a minimum 70% Medicare patient population and demonstrate service to individuals from federally designated health professional shortage areas; including, but not limited to, Philipsburg Area Hospital and Mid Valley Hospital;~~

~~are hereby designated as rural hospitals pursuant to section 1886(d)(8)(E)(ii)(II) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 1395ww(d)(8)(E)(ii)(II)).~~

FOR PURPOSES OF PAYMENTS TO HOSPITALS FOR INPATIENT OR OUTPATIENT HOSPITAL SERVICES UNDER SECTION 1886 OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (49 STAT. 620, 42 U.S.C. § 1395WW), [HOSPITALS DESIGNATED AS MEDICARE-DEPENDENT HOSPITALS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2000,] THE FOLLOWING ARE HEREBY DESIGNATED AS RURAL HOSPITALS PURSUANT TO SECTION 1886(D)(8)(E)(II)(II) OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (42 U.S.C. § 1395WW(D)(8)(E)(II)(II))[.]:

(1) HOSPITALS DESIGNATED AS MEDICARE-DEPENDENT HOSPITALS AS OF APRIL 30, 2002, OR CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2005;

(2) HOSPITALS LOCATED IN A CENSUS TRACT WITH RURAL-URBAN COMMUTING AREA CODES 4 THROUGH 10 ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE; AND

(3) HOSPITALS WITH 50 OR FEWER BEDS THAT SERVE AT A MINIMUM 70% MEDICARE PATIENT POPULATION AND DEMONSTRATE SERVICE TO INDIVIDUALS FROM FEDERALLY DESIGNATED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.