

CHAPTER 64 (HB 218)

AN ACT relating to charitable health care providers.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. KRS 216.940 is amended to read as follows:

As used in KRS 216.940 to 216.945:

- (1) "Charitable health care provider" means any person, agency, clinic, or facility licensed or certified by *the Commonwealth*~~[this state]~~ or under a comparable provision of law of another state, territory, district, or possession of the United States, engaged in the rendering of medical care without compensation or charge, and without expectation of compensation or charge, to the individual, without payment or reimbursement by any governmental agency or insurer. "Charitable health care provider" only means those persons, agencies, clinics, or facilities engaging in primary care and performing no invasive or surgical procedures.
- (2) "Regularly practice" means to practice for more than sixty (60) days within any ninety (90) day period.
- (3) "Sponsoring organization" means any organization, with an established relationship with a practicing entity, that organizes or arranges for the voluntary provision of health care services in the state.

Section 2. KRS 216.941 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no additional license or certificate otherwise required under the provisions of KRS Chapters 211, 216, 311, 312, 313, or 314 shall be necessary for the voluntary provision of health care services by any person who:
 - (a) Is a charitable health care provider as defined in KRS 216.940; or (b) Does not regularly practice in the Commonwealth.
- (2) No person whose license or certificate is suspended or revoked under disciplinary proceedings in any jurisdiction, nor any person who renders services outside of the scope of practice authorized by his or her licensure or certification or exception to license or certification shall be allowed to participate with any sponsoring organization as a charitable health care provider.
- (3) Before providing charitable health care services in this state, a charitable health care provider or sponsoring organization shall register with the Cabinet for Health Services by ~~submitting a registration fee of fifty dollars (\$50) and~~ filing a registration form that shall contain the following information:
 - (a) The name, address, and phone number of the charitable health care provider;
 - (b) Written and verifiable documentation of a current Kentucky license including, if applicable, a license granted to an individual under a reciprocal agreement with another state or country;
 - (c) The name, principal office address, phone number, and principal officer of any sponsoring organization;
 - (d) The dates, locations, types of services, and intended recipients of any charitable health care services to be performed in the state;

- (e) Information as to any medical malpractice insurance procured under KRS 304.40-075 or otherwise; and
 - (f) Other information as the cabinet may require by administrative regulation.
- (4) The cabinet shall provide, upon request of the charitable health care provider or sponsoring organization, any information available as to declared emergencies, underserved populations, and lack of access to health care in the state that will assist the charitable health care provider or sponsoring organization in the provision of these services.
 - (5) Boards of health created under KRS Chapter 212 may submit requests for charitable health care providers in their jurisdictions to be listed in any information provided.
 - (6) Each sponsoring organization shall maintain a list of health care providers associated with its provision of charitable health care services. For each health care provider, the sponsoring organization shall maintain a copy of a current license, certificate, or statement of exemption from licensure or certification and shall require each health care provider to attest in writing that his or her license or certificate is not suspended or revoked under disciplinary proceedings in any jurisdiction. The sponsoring organization shall maintain its records of charitable health care providers for at least five (5) years after the provision of charitable health care services, including actual dates, types of services, and recipients of charitable health care services, and shall furnish these records upon the request of the Cabinet for Health Services. Compliance with this section shall be prima facie evidence that the sponsoring organization has exercised due care in selecting charitable health care providers.
 - (7) The cabinet may revoke the registration of any charitable health care provider or sponsoring organization for failure to comply with the provisions of KRS 216.940 to 216.945, in accordance with the provisions of KRS Chapter 13B.
 - (8) The cabinet shall report to the General Assembly the name and location of individuals registered with the cabinet as charitable health care providers, by October 1 of each year.

Section 3. KRS 304.40-075 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) As used in this section, unless the context requires otherwise:
 - (a) "Charitable health care provider" means any person, agency, clinic, or facility licensed or certified by the Commonwealth, or under a comparable provision of law of another state, territory, district, or possession of the United States, engaged in the rendering of medical care without compensation or charge, and without expectation of compensation or charge, to the individual, without payment or reimbursement by any governmental agency or insurer. "Charitable health care provider" only means those persons, agencies, clinics, or facilities engaging in *primary care*~~[general practice]~~—medicine and performing no invasive or surgical procedures;
 - (b) "Medical malpractice insurer" means every person or entity engaged as principal and as indemnitor, surety, or contractor in the business of entering into contracts to provide medical professional liability insurance, except an entity in the business of providing such medical professional liability insurance only to itself or its affiliated subsidiary, or parent corporation, or subsidiaries of its parent corporations; and
 - (c) "Medical professional liability insurance" means insurance to cover liability incurred as a result of the hands-on providing of medical professional services directly to patients

by an insured in the treatment, diagnosis, or prevention of patient illness, disease, or injury.

- (2) Insurers offering medical professional liability insurance in the Commonwealth shall make available, as a condition of doing business in the Commonwealth pursuant to this chapter, medical professional liability insurance for charitable health care providers and persons volunteering to perform medical services for charitable health care providers, with the same coverage limits made available to its other insureds.
- (3) (a) Premiums for policies issued under subsection (2) of this section shall be paid by the Commonwealth from the general fund ~~not to exceed the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) and from the registration fees collected by the Cabinet for Health Services under KRS 216.941(3)~~ upon written application for payment of the premium by the health care provider wishing to offer charitable services.
 - (b) The Department of Insurance shall, through promulgation of administrative regulations pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A, establish reasonable guidelines for the registration of charitable health care providers. The guidelines shall require the provider to supply, at a minimum, the following information:
 1. Name and address of the charitable health care provider;
 2. Number of employees of the charitable health care provider who will be rendering medical care without compensation or charge and without expectation of compensation or charge, and who will be covered under the policy issued under subsection (2) of this section;
 3. The expected number of patients to be provided charitable health care services in the year for which the insurer will offer malpractice coverage;
 4. The charitable health care provider's acknowledgment that the insurer's risk management and loss prevention policies shall be followed; and
 5. A copy of the registration filed with the Cabinet for Health Services under KRS 216.941.
 - (c) Persons insured under this section shall be required to comply with the same risk management and loss prevention policies which the insurer imposes upon its other insureds.
- (4) This section shall only apply to charitable health care providers and persons volunteering to perform medical services for charitable health care providers who are not otherwise covered by any policy of medical professional liability insurance *for the charitable health care services provided*, and that meet the terms for eligibility established pursuant to this section.
- (5) Coverage offered to charitable health care providers and persons volunteering at charitable health care providers shall be at least as broad as the coverage offered by the insurer to other noncharitable health care providers or facilities and to medical professionals working at noncharitable health care facilities.
- (6) The Department of Insurance shall retrospectively review on an annual basis the premiums paid pursuant to this section as opposed to the expenses incurred by the insurers covering risks under this section to determine if the profits made for those risks were consistent with reasonable loss ratio guidelines. If the determination is made that the profits were not

consistent with reasonable loss ratio guidelines, the Department of Insurance shall determine the amount of the premiums to be refunded to the Commonwealth.

- (7) The Cabinet for Health Services shall make available to the Department of Insurance information on its registration of charitable health care providers for the purpose of obtaining medical malpractice insurance.
- (8) The Department of Insurance shall not provide medical malpractice insurance as specified in subsection (3)(a) of this section to a charitable health care provider who has not registered with the Cabinet for Health Services under KRS 216.941.

Approved March 6, 2000