

-Evidence does not conclude that there was a failure to meet the applicable standard of care.

SB 4 GA retains the major provisions of the measure as introduced and makes the following changes in the bill:

SB 4 GA provides that if a panel chairperson cannot be agreed upon within 20 days after a complaint is served, any party may request the director of the Kentucky Bar Association to select a list of potential chairpersons. Once the \$25 selection fee has been received from the party making the request, the director shall randomly draw five attorneys. These attorneys must be licensed to practice within Kentucky and maintain an office in the county or in a contiguous county from where the complaint originated. The director will notify the parties at which time they will alternate striking attorneys until the remaining attorney is named chairperson.

Part III: Fiscal Explanation, Bill Provisions, and Estimated Cost

The fiscal impact of SB 4 GA on local governments is expected to be minimal.

For purposes of this local government mandate analysis, only hospitals and long term care facilities owned, operated or contracted for by local governments were considered.

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) shows 4 hospitals owned, operated, or contracted by local governments. The hospitals all happen to be owned by county governments. Those hospitals are listed below:

Casey County Hospital
Hardin Memorial Hospital
Knox County Hospital
Russell County Hospital

There are 3 long term care facilities owned, operated, or contracted by local governments. Those facilities are listed below:

Cumberland Valley Manor
Metcalf Health Care Center
Spring Creek Health Care.

All cost associated with the panel including compensation to the members, reasonable travel expenses, and any other expenses are to be paid for by the party or parties in whose favor the opinion is written. Additionally, the \$25 fee accompanying the request for the director of the Kentucky Bar Association to select a chairperson is paid by the party making the request.

Whereas government employees are not excluded as possible panel members, there may be cost to cover the work load of a local government employee if selected as a panel member. This could be an attorney or health care worker employed by the local government.

Data Source(s): LRC staff, Cabinet for Health and Family Services..

Preparer: Wendell F. Butler **Reviewer:** JWN **Date:** 1/5/17