

Bill No. 35 of 1949.

A BILL TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL HOSPITALS  
ACT.

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**NOTE.**

This Bill amends *The Municipal Hospitals Act*, being chapter 185 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 1942.

Section 2 paragraph (1) which defines "ratepayer" is amended to include a person who pays a business tax.

Section 7 is struck out and a new section is substituted which enables the Minister to fix and allocate the number of members of the board of the hospital district upon its establishment. Under the Act at present every municipality, any part of which is included within a hospital district, is entitled to be represented by a member on the hospital board. In some municipal hospital districts which contain a number of small villages and municipalities the membership on a board is growing very large and unwieldy. Also, in some cases where only a small portion of a municipality is contained in a municipal hospital district the member of the board representing that municipality may draw more fees for mileage and expenses than the total amount of the contribution by that municipality to the municipal hospital district. The amendment to section 7 is for the purpose of removing the necessity of allocating to each municipality a member to represent it on the municipal hospital board.

Section 11 is amended by the addition of a new subsection (3). This new subsection is exactly the same as the old subsection (3) which was struck out in 1945. The new subsection provides for a scheme in which there is provision for a minimum annual hospital tax, commonly known as a poll tax, to be paid by all persons twenty-one years of age gainfully employed who are resident in the municipal hospital district, and who are not ratepayers. Any person paying the poll tax is entitled, in the year in which he pays, to the benefits conferred upon a hospital supporter by *The Municipal Hospitals Act*.

Section 61 is amended by striking out subsection (1) and by substituting two new subsections. These new subsections enable the Minister, on the recommendation of any board, to reduce, increase, or re-allocate the number of members of that board. Any included area which has not been allocated a board member is required to be combined with some other included area and the combined area will be represented by a board member.

The effect of these amendments is that the board of any hospital district which has become large or unwieldy in size may be reduced to an efficient size. Unnecessary expense will be avoided and all persons in a municipal hospital district will be represented by an elected board member. Where small portions of several municipalities are included in a municipal hospital district they may be combined and have one elected member to represent them.

KENNETH A. MCKENZIE,  
*Acting Legislative Counsel.*

*(This note does not form any part of the Bill but is offered in explanation of its provisions.)*

# BILL

No. 35 of 1949.

An Act to amend The Municipal Hospitals Act.

(Assented to \_\_\_\_\_, 1949.)

**H**IS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

**1.** *The Municipal Hospitals Act*, being chapter 185 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 1942, is hereby amended as to section 2 by adding immediately after the word "property", where the same occurs in paragraph (1), the words "or business".

**2.** The said Act is further amended by striking out section 7 and by substituting the following:

"**7.** Upon the establishment of a hospital district the Minister shall fix and allocate the number of members of the board for the district."

**3.** The said Act is further amended as to section 11 by adding immediately after subsection (2) the following new subsection:

"(3) Any scheme may provide that every person who is of the full age of twenty-one years, and who is not a rate-payer, and who is a resident of the hospital district, and who has been so resident for a continuous period of six months and is gainfully employed shall pay a minimum annual hospital tax and fix the amount of the tax to be so paid and may fix a date by which the tax shall be paid and any such person so paying the minimum tax before the date so fixed shall be entitled in that year to the benefits conferred upon a hospital supporter by this Act."

**4.** The said Act is further amended as to section 61 by striking out subsection (1) and by substituting the following:

"**61.**—(1) The Minister may from time to time, on the recommendation of any board, reduce, increase, or re-allocate the number of members of that board.

"(1a) Any included area which has not been allocated a board member shall be combined with such other included area as may be designated by the Minister, and the persons who would otherwise be entitled to vote in each of the in-

cluded areas so combined shall be entitled to vote in the election of the member or members representing the combined area on the board.”.

**5.** This Act shall come into force on the day upon which it is assented to.

No. 35

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FIRST SESSION  
ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
13 GEORGE VI  
1949

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**BILL**

An Act to amend The Municipal  
Hospitals Act.

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Received and read the

First time .....

Second time .....

Third time .....

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HON. DR. CROSS.

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