

Bill No. 34 of 1954

A BILL TO AMEND THE HOSPITALS ACT

NOTE

This Bill amends *The Hospitals Act*, being chapter 184 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 1942.

Section 2 is amended to define "local hospital".

Section 3, subsection (1) is amended to clarify the meaning of approved hospitals where that term appears in this and other Acts. The meaning is presently obscure.

Section 3*b*, subsection (2), clause (c) is amended to permit the benefit of a hospitalization contract to become available sixty days after the contract is entered into. At present benefits under such contracts become available on the 1st of January or the 1st of July. The new provision is additional to the old requirement which may still be retained if desired.

Section 3*c* is replaced by a new section 3*c*. The purpose of this amendment is to permit local authorities or municipal hospital district boards to be paid the daily hospitalization grant where the patient is hospitalized as an emergency patient or a referred patient in an active treatment hospital, and where the local authority or board pays the hospitalization account without restricting the hospitalization period of the patient in the active treatment hospital. Previously this permission extended only to such patients as were hospitalized in an approved hospital which of necessity meant in a provincial hospital receiving a hospital grant under section 3. The section also has been revised to set out more clearly the circumstances in which it applies.

A new section 3*n* has been added to authorize the Minister to reimburse a local authority or municipal hospital district board up to half of the amount paid by the authority or board to a patient who had been hospitalized in a local hospital with which the authority or board has not been able to obtain a hospitalization agreement. This authorization is qualified in that the amount of the reimbursement cannot be greater than the amount of reimbursement if an approved agreement had been in force with the local hospital.

Section 5 is amended. The amendment to subsection (9) provides that the residence of a baby born in a hospital shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed a resident of its mother's municipality. Previously, the residence of such a baby was determined by its parents' residence. Subsection (10) is amended to correct a reference to an Act and to add *The City Act* to the municipal Acts mentioned in this section.

Section 6, subsection (9) is amended for the same purpose as subsection (10) of section 5.

Section 7, subsection (2) is amended for the purpose of having this section conform with the proviso in subsection (4) of section 6 which was added in 1944 and amended in 1952.

This Bill is to come into force upon assent.

J. W. RYAN,
Acting Legislative Counsel.

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

BILL

No. 34 of 1954

An Act to amend The Hospitals Act

(Assented to , 1954)

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

1. *The Hospitals Act*, being chapter 184 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 1942, is hereby amended.

2. Section 2 is amended by adding immediately after clause (e) the following new clause: Section 2 amended

"(e1) 'local hospital' means an approved hospital in, or adjacent to, the area controlled by a local authority or by a board of a municipal hospital district and acceptable to the Director of Hospital and Medical Services as a local hospital," "local hospital"

3. Section 3, subsection (1) is amended by striking out the word "approved" and by substituting the words "active treatment". Section 3 amended

4. Section 3b, subsection (2) is amended by striking out clause (c) and by substituting the following: Section 3b amended

"(c) the municipal hospital district or local authority providing the contract plan for hospitalization authorizes the purchase of contracts by non-rate-payers under which benefits become available either

"(i) on the first day of January or the first day of July of each year, or

"(ii) sixty days after the date of purchase of the contract by the non-ratepayer."

5. Section 3c is struck out and the following substituted: Section 3c amended

"3c. Where Eligibility for hospitalization grant

"(a) a ratepayer or contract holder receives hospitalization as an emergency admission or as a medically referred admission in an active treatment hospital other than

"(i) the hospital operated by his municipal hospital district, or

"(ii) the hospital with which the board of his municipal hospital district or his local authority has entered into an agreement,

and,

"(b) the municipal hospital district or local authority that would have been responsible for the hospitalization of the ratepayer or contract holder

"(i) pays on account of the hospitalization of the ratepayer or contract holder an amount equivalent to the cost of the standard ward hospitalization to which he would have been entitled in the hospital operated by the municipal hospital district or in the hospital with which his local authority or the board of his municipal hospital district has entered into an agreement, and

"(ii) does not restrict the period of hospitalization for active treatment of the ratepayer or contract holder,

the Minister may pay to the board of the municipal hospital district or to the local authority, whichever is the case, the daily hospitalization grant that would have been paid if the ratepayer or contract holder had been hospitalized in one of the hospitals mentioned in subclauses (i) and (ii) of clause (a)."

New
section 3n
Reimburse-
ment

6. The following new section is added immediately after section 3m:

"3n. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Minister may, subject to subsection (2), reimburse a local authority or a board of a municipal hospital district in an amount up to fifty per cent of the amount paid by the local authority or the board of the municipal hospital district to the ratepayers or contract holders of the local authority or municipal hospital district who have received hospitalization in a local hospital with which the local authority or board has no agreement, if the local authority or board has first submitted to the local hospital a proposed agreement that complies with the requirements for agreements under this Act.

"(2) In no case shall the amount of a reimbursement to a local authority or a board of a municipal hospital district exceed the amount that would have been reimbursed if the proposed agreement submitted to the local hospital had been in force."

Section 5
amended

7. Section 5 is amended

- (a) as to subsection (9) by striking out the words "of which its parents are residents" and by substituting the words "of which its mother is a resident";
- (b) as to subsection (10) by striking out the words "*The Town and Village Act*", and by substituting the words and figures "*The City Act, The Town and Village Act, 1952*".

8. Section 6, subsection (9) is amended by striking out the words "*The Town and Village Act*," and by substituting the words and figures "*The City Act, The Town and Village Act, 1952*,". Section 6
amended

9. Section 7, subsection (2) is amended by striking out the word "three" and by substituting the word "four". Section 7
amended

10. This Act comes into force on the day upon which it is assented to. Coming into
force

No. 34

SECOND SESSION
TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
3 ELIZABETH II
1954

BILL

An Act to amend The Hospitals Act

Received and read the

First time

Second time

Third time

HON. DR. CROSS
