

Bill No. 39 of 1955

A BILL TO AMEND THE HOSPITALS ACT

NOTE

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

This Act, which originally was enacted to regulate and govern hospitals in the Province, has in the years since its enactment become the vehicle for the "dollar-a-day" hospitalization plan. As a result of a proposed enlarging of the hospitalization plan, the sections of this Act dealing with that subject are being repealed, that is, sections 3a to 3d and 3f to 3n (section 3e was repealed previously), and the hospitalization plan provisions are being placed in *The Hospitalization and Treatment Services Act*, which was enacted in 1953 and which is a more appropriate Act for the hospitalization legislation.

The repeal of these sections made other changes necessary, particularly in section 2, the definition section.

Section 3 is amended. Subsection (1) authorizes the payment of a grant based on the patient-day of patients in an active treatment hospital. This is substantially the same as the previous legislation but the grant will no longer be dependent on the filing of prescribed returns with the Department of Public Health. Subsection (2) authorizes the payment of an additional grant when a hospital receiving the per diem grant provides special facilities for any class or group of patients. Previously, the extra grant was restricted to hospitals providing special facilities for the treatment of particular diseases.

Section 4, subsection (1) is a redrafting of the present section. In addition, power is given by clause (c) thereof to the Lieutenant Governor in Council to make regulations governing the conditions under which a per diem grant or any other public assistance may be made to a hospital.

This Bill comes 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. 39 of 1955

An Act to amend The Hospitals Act

(Assented to , 1955)

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.

Section 2
amended
Interpre-
tation
"approved
hospital"

"board"

"Depart-
ment"

"indigent
person"

"local
authority"

"medical
practitioner"

"Minister"

"municipality"

"patient"

"per diem
allowance"

"place other
than a
hospital"

2. Section 2 is struck out and the following is substituted:

"2. In this Act,

"(a) 'approved hospital' means a hospital for the time being in receipt of a per diem allowance;

"(b) 'board' means the board of trustees or other body or person managing the affairs of a hospital;

"(c) 'Department' means the Department of Public Health;

"(d) 'indigent person' means a person who is actually destitute of means of obtaining from his own resources the medical and hospital care necessary for the immediate needs of himself and his dependants;

"(e) 'local authority' means the council of any city, town, village, county or municipal district and, in the case of an improvement district or special area, means the Minister of Municipal Affairs;

"(f) 'medical practitioner' means any person duly qualified to practise in the Province as a physician or surgeon or both pursuant to *The Medical Profession Act*;

"(g) 'Minister' means the Minister of Health;

"(h) 'municipality' means any city, town, village, county, municipal district, improvement district or special area;

"(i) 'patient' means a person who, by the direction of a board or the representatives of a board, is admitted for actual treatment to an approved hospital, to a home for incurables, or to a sanatorium;

"(j) 'per diem allowance' means the allowance authorized by subsection (1) of section 3;

"(k) 'place other than a hospital' means an institution approved by the Minister for the reception of persons suffering from incurable diseases or incapacitated by advanced age;

"(l) 'relief' means financial assistance for the purpose of providing directly food, fuel, clothing or shelter for a person or any of his dependants and received from a local authority or from provincial funds." "relief"

3. Section 3 is amended

Section 3
amended

- (a) by striking out subsection (1) and by substituting the following:

"3. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may authorize the payment to an active treatment hospital of a per diem allowance for each person admitted to the hospital or treated therein, except in respect of any hospital or of any person or of any class of persons, which in the discretion of the Lieutenant Governor in Council may by order be excluded from the operation of this section." Per diem allowance

- (b) by striking out subsection (2) and by substituting the following:

"(2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may direct the payment of an extra per diem allowance to any hospital that provides special services for any class or group of patients." Extra per diem allowance

4. Sections 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3f, 3g, 3h, 3i, 3j, 3k, 3l, 3m, and 3n are repealed.

Sections
repealed

5. Section 4 is amended by striking out subsection (1) and by substituting the following:

Section 4
amended

"4. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations governing Regulations

"(a) the appointment, dismissal or suspension of members of the staff of physicians and surgeons of a hospital, and

"(b) the management, maintenance, operation of and accommodation in any hospital or any place other than a hospital, and

"(c) the conditions under which a per diem allowance and any assistance by way of payments from municipal or provincial funds may be made to a hospital."

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

Coming into
force

No. 39

THIRD SESSION
TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

4 ELIZABETH II

1955

BILL

An Act to amend The Hospitals Act

Received and read the

First time.....

Second time.....

Third time.....

HON. DR. CROSS
