



Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee

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60th Montana Legislature

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January 11, 2008

Dear Health Care Facility Administrator:

The 60th Legislature requested a study of health care access and delivery under Senate Joint Resolution No. 15 and listed the following issues that are reflected in the accompanying survey:

- (1) study and analyze the impacts of various models for the delivery of health care services on the cost of health care, the quality of care, and access to health care services, including but not limited to:
 - (a) the percentage of Medicare, Medicaid, private pay, and charity and uncompensated care that these health care facilities, as defined in 50-5-101, provide compared to the percentage provided by nonprofit, community-based hospitals;
 - (b) the range of services provided by physician-owned and privately owned health care facilities and specialty hospitals and the benefits and impacts of those services compared to the services provided by nonprofit, community-based hospitals;
 - (c) the comparative cost of services rendered by the private facilities and specialty hospitals compared to the nonprofit, community-based hospitals; and
 - (d) the comparative impact on a community's health care safety net of the operations of health care providers in each of the categories in subsection (1)(c);
- (2) identify the number and operating characteristics of nonprofit, community-based hospitals; physician-owned hospitals and physician-owned health care facilities; and nonhospital, for-profit facilities that perform surgical, imaging, and diagnostic procedures, including those owned jointly with hospitals;...

This study is being conducted through the Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee. We are asking that you fill out this survey to help legislators see the range of services that are available, where there is competition, and which services are more likely to serve specific populations. The survey asks some questions that you most likely have answered for other surveys. This is an effort to decrease the amount of work on you but also provide a base using time frames similar for all responders. Please provide information from your latest fiscal year report. As legislators seek to determine whether legislation is needed to level playing fields or regulate competition, good information is important.

If you have questions regarding the survey, please contact Patricia Murdo, staff for the SJR 15 study at the phone number or address on this letterhead or by email at: pmurdo@mt.gov. Also, please return the survey or answer the online version at <http://leg.mt.gov/healthcaresurvey.asp> by the end of February. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Representative Edith Clark
Presiding Officer (signature by pm)

Attachments
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