

Senate Bill 171

By: Senators Levetan of the 40th, Unterman of the 45th, Price of the 56th, Thomas of the 54th, Thomas of the 10th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 8 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to hospital care for nonresident indigents, so as to provide for procedures relating to
3 reimbursement of hospitals by counties; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Article 2 of Chapter 8 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 hospital care for nonresident indigents, is amended in Code Section 31-8-32, relating to the
9 determination of indigency, by inserting a new subsection (d.1) immediately following
10 subsection (d) to read as follows:

11 "(d.1)(1) In the event payment for the costs of services rendered by a hospital is not
12 received from the responsible county governing authority within 90 days of receipt of a
13 statement for services rendered to a qualified indigent who is a certified resident of the
14 county or if the payment is disputed and said payment is not received from the county
15 determined to be responsible within 60 days of the date of exhaustion of all
16 administrative and legal remedies, the hospital shall certify to the Comptroller General
17 the amount owed by the county.

18 (2) The Comptroller General shall have no longer than 45 days from the date of receiving
19 the hospital's certified notice to forward the amount delinquent to the appropriate hospital
20 from any funds due to the county under any revenue-sharing or tax-sharing fund
21 established by the state, except as otherwise provided by the state Constitution. The
22 Comptroller General shall provide the Governor and the Appropriations Committees in
23 the House of Representatives and the Senate with a quarterly accounting of the amounts
24 certified by hospitals as owed by counties and the amount paid to hospitals out of any
25 revenue-sharing or tax-sharing funds due to the county."

- 1 **SECTION 2.**
- 2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.