

The House Committee on Industrial Relations offers the following substitute to HB 1573:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 4 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to county and municipal hospital authorities, so as to limit the rates charged by a
3 hospital authority that owns a managed care plan, in whole or in part, to patients who do not
4 participate in such managed care plan; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
5 laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 4 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 county and municipal hospital authorities, is amended by striking Code Section 31-7-77 and
10 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 "31-7-77.

12 No authority shall operate or construct any project for profit. It shall fix rates and charges
13 consistent with this declaration of policy and such as will produce revenues only in
14 amounts sufficient, together with all other funds of the authority, to pay principal and
15 interest on certificates and obligations of the authority, to provide for maintenance and
16 operation of the project, and to create and maintain a reserve sufficient to meet principal
17 and interest payments due on any certificates in any one year after the issuance thereof. The
18 authority may provide reasonable reserves for the improvement, replacement, or expansion
19 of its facilities or services. No hospital authority that owns, in whole or in part, any
20 managed care plan as defined in Code Section 33-20A-3 shall charge an uninsured patient
21 or a patient with health care coverage other than such managed care plan an amount greater
22 than the rate charged a patient under such managed care plan for the same service,
23 procedure, or item."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.