

1 SB387
2 185313-1
3 By Senator Reed
4 RFD: Health and Human Services
5 First Read: 20-APR-17

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the county is generally
9 responsible for the medical expenses incurred by a
10 prisoner in the county jail.

11 This bill would provide that absent a
12 contractual arrangement for the provision and
13 payment of medical expenses, a county may not be
14 charged a fee for inpatient or outpatient medical
15 services that exceeds the rates and fees
16 established for health care providers under the
17 federal Medicare program.

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19 A BILL
20 TO BE ENTITLED
21 AN ACT
22

23 To amend Section 14-6-19 of the Code of Alabama
24 1975, relating to items required to be provided to prisoners
25 by the sheriff; to provide that a county paying for medical
26 services for a prisoner in the county jail may not be charged

1 an amount that exceeds the rates and fees established under
2 the federal Medicare program under certain conditions.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. Section 14-6-19 of the Code of Alabama
5 1975, is amended to read as follows:

6 "§14-6-19.

7 "(a) Necessary clothing and bedding ~~must~~ shall be
8 furnished by the sheriff ~~or jailer~~, at the expense of the
9 county, to those prisoners who are unable to provide them for
10 themselves, ~~and also.~~

11 "(b) Except as otherwise provided by law and
12 pursuant to Section 14-3-30 and Section 14-6-22, the sheriff
13 shall also furnish, at the expense of the county, necessary
14 medicines and medical attention to ~~those who are~~ any prisoner
15 who is sick or injured, when ~~they are~~ the prisoner is unable
16 to ~~personally provide them for themselves~~ for the cost of the
17 medicines or medical attention through payment or insurance.

18 "(c) (1) The county may enter into contracts for
19 inpatient or outpatient medical services or expenses.

20 "(2) Where there is no contractual arrangement to
21 provide medical services or expenses to prisoners in the
22 county jail, a medical services provider may not charge the
23 county an amount for inpatient or outpatient medical services
24 or expenses that exceed the rates and fees established for
25 health care providers under the federal Medicare program."

1 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
2 first day of the third month following its passage and
3 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.