

HOUSE BILL 266

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006

INTRODUCED BY

Peter Wirth

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH; CREATING THE TRAUMA SYSTEM FUND AUTHORITY;
CREATING THE TRAUMA SYSTEM FUND; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the
"Trauma System Fund Authority Act".

Section 2. PURPOSE OF ACT.--The purpose of the Trauma
System Fund Authority Act is to provide funding to sustain
existing trauma centers, support the development of new trauma
centers and develop a statewide trauma system.

Section 3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Trauma System
Fund Authority Act:

A. "authority" means the trauma system fund
authority;

B. "department" means the department of health;

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- 1 C. "fund" means the trauma system fund;
2 D. "secretary" means the secretary of health; and
3 E. "statewide trauma system" means a coordinated
4 continuum of care that includes injury prevention, emergency
5 medical, acute care hospital and rehabilitative services and
6 that is subject to accountability and system improvement.

7 Section 4. TRAUMA SYSTEM FUND AUTHORITY CREATED--
8 MEMBERSHIP.--

9 A. The "trauma system fund authority" is created.
10 The authority is administratively attached to the department.

11 B. The authority shall consist of at least nine
12 members, all of whom shall be appointed by and serve at the
13 pleasure of the governor. The membership of the authority
14 shall include the following:

15 (1) the secretary or the secretary's designee;

16 (2) representation from the medical specialty
17 of trauma physicians;

18 (3) at least one member of a statewide
19 organization representing physicians in New Mexico;

20 (4) at least one member representing emergency
21 and trauma nursing practice;

22 (5) at least one member of a statewide
23 organization representing hospitals and health systems in New
24 Mexico;

25 (6) at least one member of a statewide

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1 organization representing injury prevention;

2 (7) the chair of the statewide emergency
3 medical services advisory committee;

4 (8) the chair of the trauma advisory
5 committee; and

6 (9) at least one member of a statewide
7 organization representing rehabilitation services.

8 C. Authority members shall elect a chair and other
9 officers as the authority deems appropriate.

10 D. The authority shall meet regularly at the call
11 of the chair.

12 Section 5. DUTIES.--The authority shall:

13 A. develop criteria by which distribution of funds
14 to existing trauma centers and potential new centers will
15 occur;

16 B. receive applications and determine and monitor
17 the actual distribution of money from the fund that will
18 support the development of a statewide system of trauma care;

19 C. oversee the department's administration of the
20 fund and the development of a trauma system; and

21 D. report annually to the interim legislative
22 health and human services committee.

23 Section 6. TRAUMA SYSTEM FUND CREATED--FUNDING.--

24 A. The "trauma system fund" is created in the state
25 treasury. The fund shall consist of money appropriated and

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1 transferred to the fund, money received by the authority from
2 any public or private source and tax revenues distributed to
3 the fund by law. Interest earned on investment of the fund
4 shall be credited to the fund. Disbursements from the fund
5 shall be made upon warrants drawn by the secretary of finance
6 and administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the secretary
7 of health or the secretary's authorized representative. Money
8 in the fund shall not revert at the end of any fiscal year.

9 B. Money in the fund is appropriated to the
10 department for the purpose of making distributions approved by
11 the authority and for administering the Trauma System Fund
12 Authority Act; provided that no more than five percent of the
13 fund may be used by the department for administrative costs,
14 including monitoring, trauma system development and providing
15 technical assistance.

16 Section 7. RULES.--The department shall promulgate rules
17 to carry out the provisions of the Trauma System Fund Authority
18 Act.

19 Section 8. APPROPRIATION.--

20 A. Six million dollars (\$6,000,000) is appropriated
21 from the general fund to the trauma system fund for expenditure
22 by the department of health in fiscal year 2006 and subsequent
23 fiscal years as follows:

24 (1) four million dollars (\$4,000,000) to
25 support trauma services at the university of New Mexico

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hospital in the first year of the fund's existence; and
(2) two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to
strengthen and stabilize the trauma system throughout the
state.

B. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining
at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert.