



April 01, 2025

Indigent Care

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
County Technical Assistance Service
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
615.532.3555 phone
615.532.3699 fax
www.ctas.tennessee.edu

Table of Contents

Indigent Care	3
Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 594	3
Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 700	3

Indigent Care

Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 594

SECTION 1. That in any County of this State having a population of not less than 33,000 nor more than 33,400 by the Federal Census of 1940, or any subsequent Federal Census, the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court be, and is, hereby authorized and empowered to enter into such contracts with any reputable hospitals, located in said County, as may be deemed expedient or advisable and upon such basis, terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon for the purpose of securing the care and treatment of the indigent sick and/or injured persons in such County; provided, that no such contracts shall be made for a period of less than one year or more than five years, and that the contractual costs in no case shall exceed the aggregate maximum sum of Twenty-Nine Hundred (\$2,900.00) Dollars per annum; and, provided further, that all such contracts when consummated shall be approved and confirmed by the Quarterly County Court by proper resolution adopted in regular session and spread upon the minutes of the Court.

SECTION 2. That when any such contract shall have become effective and it is made satisfactorily to appear to the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court that some sick or injured person is unable to procure proper care and attention because of poverty, said County Judge or Chairman shall issue an order to said contracting hospital to receive said person for treatment as a county patient. And said hospital shall receive no such patient without such order except in case of emergency wherein it shall become the duty of the hospital to notify the County Judge or Chairman of the reception of such patient as early as possible thereafter.

SECTION 3. That when any such county patient is without the services of a regular physician and is unable because of poverty to employ one, it shall become the duty of the County Physician of said County to attend said patient and to administer such medical treatment as may be required during his or her retention in said hospital.

SECTION 4. That the funds necessary to meet the payments of said contracts be appropriated from the general revenue fund of the County and paid according to the tenor thereof by warrants issued by the County Judge or Chairman.

SECTION 5. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 4, 1947.

Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 700

SECTION 1. That the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court in any County of this State having a population of not less than 33,300 nor more than 33,400 by the Federal Census of 1940, or any subsequent Federal Census, be and is hereby authorized to enter into agreements or contracts with any reputable and responsible person or persons or charitable institution or welfare organization in such County as may be deemed expedient and advisable and upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon for the purpose of providing for the more efficient, equitable and economic care of the poor and needy and indigent afflicted persons of the County who are not occupants of or eligible for admission to the County Poorhouse; provided, that no such agreements or contracts shall be made for a period of more than one year and the aggregate costs thereof may not exceed Two Thousand (\$2,000.00) Dollars per annum; provided, further, that all such agreements and contracts when made shall be ratified by the Quarterly County Court in regular session convened, and that when so ratified the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court have at all times discretionary powers in the direction and supervision thereof.

SECTION 2. That the moneys due and owing under such agreements and contracts be paid quarterly by the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court by warrants drawn upon the ordinary funds of the County, and as other County expenses are paid.

SECTION 3. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 7, 1947.

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