

October 12, 2023

ILLINOIS HEALTH AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION M E M O R A N D U M

SUBJECT: PA 103-0323: Community Benefit Act Updates

Summary

On July 28, 2023, Gov. JB Pritzker signed PA 103-0323 which amends the Fair Patient Billing Act, Hospital Uninsured Patient Discount Act, and Community Benefits Act. Under the Community Benefits Act, certain nonprofit hospitals in Illinois are required to submit annual community benefit reports to the Office of the Attorney General. These reports must also be posted on the hospital's website.

Community benefit reports must contain certain information on hospital spending, financial assistance, and patient demographics. PA 103-0323 added a new reporting requirement related to financial assistance applications. Specifically, community benefit reports must now include information on the number of uninsured patients who have declined or failed to respond to screening for financial assistance or public health insurance program eligibility, as described in subsection (a) of Section 16 of the Fair Patient Billing Act. The report must also include the five most frequent reasons uninsured patients provide for declining the screening.

These new reporting requirements are effective for services provided on or after July 1, 2024. The Community Benefits Act does not apply to hospitals operated by the government, hospitals located outside of a metropolitan statistical area, or hospitals with 100 or fewer beds.

Please send questions or comments here.