Overview

This bill requires the commissioner of health to establish a charity care equity fund, to compensate qualified hospitals for qualified charity care services.

1 Charity care equity fund. Adds § 62J.85. Establishes a charity care equity fund for qualified hospitals.
   Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines terms, including the following. A "qualified hospital" is defined as one that provides a level of charity care services, relative to its operating expenses, that exceeds the statewide average. "Qualified charity care services" are defined as the sum of all charity care services in excess of the statewide charity care average.
   Subd. 2. Establishment. Requires the commissioner of health to establish a charity care equity fund for the purpose of compensating qualified hospitals for qualified charity care services.
   Subd. 3. Report. Requires hospitals to report specified information, in order to be eligible to receive funds from the charity care equity fund.
   Subd. 4. Fund distribution. (a) Requires the commissioner to annually distribute to each qualified hospital an amount proportionately equal to the hospital's share of qualified charity care services.
      (b) Prohibits a qualified hospital from receiving a distribution amount that exceeds 60 percent of the qualified hospital's aggregate charges for charity care services.

2 Appropriation. Appropriates money from the general fund to the commissioner of health for the biennium ending June 30, 2001, for the charity care equity fund.