ORIGINAL SENATE **ENGROSSED**
FILE NO. 0057

ENROLLED ACT NO. 66, SENATE

FIFTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2006 BUDGET SESSION

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; providing a definition; providing for a study of medical specialty centers and new general hospitals by the Wyoming health care commission; requiring a report; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1.

(a) For purposes of this section, "medical specialty center" means a hospital organized or incorporated as an entity that allows patients to remain in the facility for twenty-four (24) hours or longer and is primarily or exclusively engaged in the care and treatment of one (1) or more of the following:

(i) Patients with a cardiac condition;

(ii) Patients with an orthopedic condition;

(iii) Patients receiving a surgical procedure; or

(iv) Patients receiving any other specialized category of services designated by the department in its rules and regulations.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following are not medical specialty centers:

(i) Psychiatric hospitals;

(ii) Rehabilitation hospitals;

(iii) Children's hospitals;

(iv) Long-term care hospitals;

(v) Cancer treatment hospitals.

(c) The Wyoming health care commission shall conduct a study of medical specialty centers and new general hospitals in communities already having a general hospital and their effects, both actual and potential, on the state's health care system. In performing the study, the commission shall evaluate and formulate recommendations, including as appropriate recommendations for new laws and regulations, regarding each of the following issues:

(i) The possible effects on the state's health care system, trauma care system, Wyoming community health care facilities and consumers;

(ii) The feasibility of modifying the licensure process for medical specialty centers and new general hospitals;

(iii) The existing and future needs for health care services, taking into account population demographics, treatment needs and health care demographics;

(iv) Any regulations of general applicability that may be appropriate to focus competition between medical specialty centers or new general hospitals and existing community hospitals on cost and quality of services, including the distribution of hospital services availability in the state;

(v) The provision of hospital specialty services to the insured and the underinsured populations in the state;

(vi) Creating efficiencies and opportunities for enhancing the quality of health care, the delivery of health care services and the allocation of health care resources; and

(vii) Other issues identified by the commission that arise from the creation of medical specialty centers or general hospitals and their effect on existing medical services available in the community.

(d) The commission shall submit its report to the governor and the joint labor, health and social services interim committee not later than November 1, 2006.

(e) The department of health shall inform any applicants for licensure or known prospective applicants for licensure as medical specialty centers or new hospitals allowing a stay of twenty-four (24) hours or longer of the study provided by this section and shall encourage these applicants to participate in the public processes and meetings relating to the study.

(f) Nothing in this act shall preclude the health care commission from including in this study information from any other health care facility.

(g) The study shall assume any new laws or regulations which are enacted or promulgated shall apply to the appropriate health care facilities.

Section 2. One hundred seventy-five thousand dollars ($175,000.00) is appropriated from the general fund to the

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health care commission for the purposes of the study required in subsection 1(c) of this act.

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____
DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

Chief Clerk