26-1-1. Title cited as "Utah Health Code."

This title shall be known and may be cited as the "Utah Health Code."

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-2. Definitions.

Subject to additional definitions contained in the chapters of this title which are applicable to specific chapters, as used in this title:

(1) "Council" means the Utah Health Advisory Council.

(2) "Department" means the Department of Health created in Section 26-1-4.

(3) "Executive director" means the executive director of the department appointed pursuant to Section 26-1-8.

(4) "Public health authority" means an agency or authority of the United States, a state, a territory, a political subdivision of a state or territory, an Indian tribe, or a person acting under a grant of authority from or contract with such an agency, that is responsible for public health matters as part of its official mandate.

Amended by Chapter 391, 2012 General Session

26-1-3. Purpose of title -- Consolidation of health functions into single state agency.

The purpose of this title is to consolidate into a single agency of state government certain health functions exercised by the Department of Human Services including those performed by the Division of Health, the Board of Health, the Office of Health Care Financing and Standards, the State Health Planning Development Agency, the Nursing Home Advisory Council, the Health Facilities Council, and similar affiliated agencies, in order to more efficiently and effectively manage health programs that are the responsibility of the state, to establish a health policy for the state and to promote health, the quality of life, and contain costs in the health field.

Amended by Chapter 112, 1991 General Session

26-1-4. Department of Health created -- Policymaking responsibilities -- Consultation with local health departments -- Committee to evaluate health policies and to review federal grants -- Committee responsibilities.

(1) There is created the Department of Health, which has all of the policymaking functions, regulatory and enforcement powers, rights, duties, and responsibilities of the Division of Health, the Board of Health, the State Health Planning Development Agency, and the Office of Health Care Financing. Unless otherwise specifically provided, when reference is made in any statute of this state to the Board of Health, the Division of Health, the State Health Planning Development Agency, or the Office of Health Care Financing, it refers to the department. The department shall assume all of the policymaking functions, powers, rights, duties, and responsibilities over the division, agency, and office previously vested in the Department of Human Services and its executive director.

(2) In establishing public health policy, the department shall consult with the

local health departments established under Title 26A, Chapter 1, Local Health Departments.

(3) (a) As used in this Subsection (3):

(i) "Committee" means the committee established under Subsection (3)(b).

(ii) "Exempt application" means an application for a federal grant that meets the criteria established under Subsection (3)(c)(iii).

(iii) "Expedited application" means an application for a federal grant that meets the criteria established under Subsection (3)(c)(iv).

(iv) "Federal grant" means a grant from the federal government that could provide funds for local health departments to help them fulfill their duties and responsibilities.

(v) "Reviewable application" means an application for a federal grant that is not an exempt application.

(b) The department shall establish a committee consisting of:

(i) the executive director, or the executive director's designee;

(ii) two representatives of the department, appointed by the executive director; and

(iii) three representatives of local health departments, appointed by all local health departments.

(c) The committee shall:

(i) evaluate:

(A) the allocation of public health resources between the department and local health departments; and

(B) policies that affect local health departments;

(ii) consider policy changes proposed by the department or local health departments;

(iii) establish criteria by which an application for a federal grant may be judged to determine whether it should be exempt from the requirements under Subsection (3)(d); and

(iv) establish criteria by which an application for a federal grant may be judged to determine whether committee review under Subsection (3)(d)(i) should be delayed until after the application is submitted because the application is required to be submitted under a timetable that makes committee review before it is submitted impracticable if the submission deadline is to be met.

(d) (i) The committee shall review the goals and budget for each reviewable application:

(A) before the application is submitted, except for an expedited application; and

(B) for an expedited application, after the application is submitted but before funds from the federal grant for which the application was submitted are disbursed or encumbered.

(ii) Funds from a federal grant pursuant to a reviewable application may not be disbursed or encumbered before the goals and budget for the federal grant are established by:

(A) a two-thirds vote of the committee, following the committee review under Subsection (3)(d)(i); or

(B) if two-thirds of the committee cannot agree on the goals and budget, the

chair of the health advisory council, after consultation with the committee in a manner that the committee determines.

(e) An exempt application is exempt from the requirements of Subsection (3)(d).

(f) The department may use money from a federal grant to pay administrative costs incurred in implementing this Subsection (3).

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-1-4.1. Department procedures -- Adjudicative proceedings.

The Department of Health shall comply with the procedures and requirements of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, in its adjudicative proceedings.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-1-5. Rules of department.

(1) Except in areas regulated by statutory committees created by this title, the department shall have the power to adopt, amend, or rescind rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this title.

(2) Rules shall have the force and effect of law and may deal with matters which materially affect the security of health or the preservation and improvement of public health in the state, and any matters as to which jurisdiction is conferred upon the department by this title.

(3) Every rule adopted by the department pursuant to this section, or a committee established under Section 26-1-7 or 26-1-7.5, shall be subject to Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act and shall become effective at the time and in the manner provided in that act.

(4) If, at the next general session of the Legislature following the filing of a rule with the legislative research director, the Legislature passes a bill disapproving such rule, the rule shall be null and void.

(5) The department or a committee created under Section 26-1-7 or 26-1-7.5, may not adopt a rule identical to a rule disapproved under Subsection (4) of this section, before the beginning of the next general session of the Legislature following the general session at which the rule was disapproved.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-1-6. Fee schedule adopted by department.

(1) The department may adopt a schedule of fees that may be assessed for services rendered by the department, provided that the fees are:

(a) reasonable and fair; and

(b) submitted to the Legislature as part of the department's annual appropriations request.

(2) When the department submits a fee schedule to the Legislature, the Legislature, in accordance with Section 63J-1-504, may:

(a) approve the fee;

(b) increase or decrease and approve the fee; or

(c) reject any fee submitted to it.

(3) Fees approved by the Legislature pursuant to this section shall be paid into the state treasury in accordance with Section 63J-1-104.

Amended by Chapter 183, 2009 General Session

26-1-7. Committees within department.

(1) There are created within the department the following committees:

(a) Health Facility Committee;

(b) State Emergency Medical Services Committee;

(c) Health Data Committee; and

(d) Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program Advisory Committee.

(2) The department shall:

(a) review all committees and advisory groups in existence before July 1, 2003 that are not listed in Subsection (1) or Section 26-1-7.5, and not required by state or federal law; and

(b) beginning no later than July 1, 2003:

(i) consolidate those advisory groups and committees with other committees or advisory groups as appropriate to create greater efficiencies and budgetary savings for the department; and

(ii) create in writing, time-limited and subject-limited duties for the advisory groups or committees as necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the department.

Amended by Chapter 246, 2003 General Session

26-1-7.1. Committee procedures -- Adjudicative proceedings.

All committees created by Section 26-1-7 shall comply with the procedures and requirements of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, in their adjudicative proceedings.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-1-7.5. Health advisory council.

(1) (a) There is created the Utah Health Advisory Council, comprised of nine persons appointed by the governor.

(b) The governor shall ensure that:

(i) members of the council:

(A) broadly represent the public interest;

(B) have an interest in or knowledge of public health, environmental health, health planning, health care financing, or health care delivery systems; and

(C) include health professionals;

(ii) the majority of the membership are nonhealth professionals;

(iii) no more than five persons are from the same political party; and

(iv) geography, sex, and ethnicity balance are considered when selecting the members.

(2) (a) Except as required by Subsection (2)(b), members of the council shall be appointed to four-year terms.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (2)(a), the governor shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of council members are staggered so that approximately half of the council is appointed every two years.

(c) Terms of office for subsequent appointments shall commence on July 1 of the year in which the appointment occurs.

(3) (a) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term.

(b) No person shall be appointed to the council for more than two consecutive terms.

(c) The chair of the council shall be appointed by the governor from the membership of the council.

(4) The council shall meet at least quarterly or more frequently as determined necessary by the chair. A quorum for conducting business shall consist of four members of the council.

(5) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but, at the executive director's discretion, may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

(a) Section 63A-3-106;

(b) Section 63A-3-107; and

(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

(6) The council shall be empowered to advise the department on any subject deemed to be appropriate by the council except that the council may not become involved in administrative matters. The council shall also advise the department as requested by the executive director.

(7) The executive director shall ensure that the council has adequate staff support and shall provide any available information requested by the council necessary for their deliberations. The council shall observe confidential requirements placed on the department in the use of such information.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-1-8. Executive director -- Appointment -- Compensation.

The chief administrative officer of the department is the executive director who shall be appointed by the governor with the consent of the Senate. The executive director shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The governor shall establish the executive director's salary within the salary range fixed by the Legislature in Title 67, Chapter 22, State Officer Compensation.

Amended by Chapter 176, 2002 General Session

26-1-9. Executive director -- Qualifications.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), the executive director shall be a

physician who is a graduate of a regularly chartered and legally constituted medical school, licensed to practice medicine and surgery in all branches in the state, who has successfully completed:

(a) a master's degree of public health from an accredited school of public health or from an accredited program of public health and has at least three years professional full-time experience in a senior level administrative capacity; or

(b) at least one year's graduate work in an accredited school of public health and has at least five years professional full-time experience, of which at least three years have been in public health in a senior level administrative capacity.

(2) If the executive director is not a physician under Subsection (1), the executive director shall:

(a) (i) have successfully completed at least a master's degree of public health or public administration from an accredited school of public health or from an accredited program of public health or public administration; and

(ii) have at least five years of professional full-time experience, of which at least two years have been in public health in a senior level administrative capacity; or

(b) have at least seven years of professional full-time experience in public health programs, of which at least five years have been in a senior level administrative capacity.

(3) An executive director shall be thoroughly informed and experienced in all aspects of public health work.

(4) If the executive director is not a physician, the deputy director of the department shall be a physician who has successfully completed at least one year's graduate work in an accredited school of public health or an accredited program of public health.

Amended by Chapter 141, 2011 General Session

26-1-10. Executive director -- Enforcement powers.

The executive director is empowered to issue orders to enforce state laws and rules established by the department except where the enforcement power is given to a committee created pursuant to Section 26-1-7.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-11. Executive director -- Power to amend, modify, or rescind committee rules.

The executive director pursuant to the requirements of the Administrative Rulemaking Act may amend, modify, or rescind any rule of any committee created pursuant to Section 26-1-7 if the rule creates a clear present hazard or clear potential hazard to the public health except that the executive director may not act until after discussion with the appropriate committee.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-1-12. Executive director -- Power to order abatement of public health

hazard.

If the executive director finds that a condition of filth, sanitation, or other health hazard exists which creates a clear present hazard to the public health and which requires immediate action to protect human health or safety, the executive director with the concurrence of the governor may order persons causing or contributing to the condition to reduce, discontinue, or ameliorate it to the extent that the public health hazard is eliminated.

Amended by Chapter 112, 1991 General Session

26-1-13. Executive director -- Power to organize department.

The executive director shall organize the department into divisions and offices and shall structure such organization to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of the operations of the department.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-14. Executive director -- Appointment, removal, and compensation of division directors.

The executive director shall have administrative jurisdiction over the directors of the divisions and offices established under Section 26-1-13. Each director shall be appointed by the executive director and may be removed at the will of the executive director. The directors shall be compensated in an amount fixed by the executive director. The division directors shall be experienced in administration and have knowledge and be familiar with their areas of responsibility.

Amended by Chapter 169, 1988 General Session

26-1-15. Executive director -- Power to accept federal aid.

The executive director with the approval of the governor may accept, in behalf of the state, and bind the state by such acceptance, any executive or legislative provisions promulgated or enacted by the federal government or any agency thereof, whereby the state is invited, permitted, or authorized to participate in the distribution, disbursement, or administration of any fund or service, advanced, offered, or contributed in whole or in part by the federal government for purposes consistent with the powers and duties of the department. All applications for federal grants or assistance in support of any department program shall be approved by the executive director. If any executive or legislative provisions of the federal government shall require, as a condition to participation by the state in any fund, property, or service, the executive director, with the governor's approval shall expend whatever funds are necessary out of money appropriated by the legislature for use and disbursement by the department.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-16. Executive director -- Power to accept funds and gifts.

The executive director may accept and receive such other funds and gifts as

may be made available from private and public groups for the purposes of promoting and protecting the public health or for the provision of health services to the people of the state and shall expend the same as appropriated by the legislature.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-17. Executive director -- Power to prescribe rules for administration and government of department.

The executive director shall prescribe rules not inconsistent with law for the administration and government of the department, the conduct of its employees and the custody, use and preservation of the records, papers, books, documents, and property of the department.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-17.5. Confidential records.

(1) A record classified as confidential under this title shall remain confidential, and be released according to the provisions of this title, notwithstanding Section 63G-2-310.

(2) In addition to those persons granted access to records described in Subsection 63G-2-302(1)(b), immunization records may be shared among schools, school districts, and local and state health departments and the state Department of Human Services as necessary to assure compliance with Section 53A-11-301 and to prevent, investigate, and control the causes of epidemic, infectious, communicable, and other diseases affecting the public health.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-1-18. Authority of department generally.

The department is the health, health planning, and medical assistance authority of the state and is the sole state agency for administration of federally assisted state programs or plans for public health, health planning, maternal and child health, services for children with a disability, and medical assistance.

Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-1-20. Advisory committees created by department.

The department may create such advisory committees as it deems necessary to assist in carrying out the provisions of this title.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-21. Disposal of property by department.

(1) The department may dispose of any personal property owned by it or any of the entities created under Section 26-1-13, in the manner provided in Title 63A, Chapter 2, Part 4, Surplus Property Service.

(2) The department may dispose of any real property owned by it or any of the entities created under Section 26-1-13, in the manner provided in Title 65A, Chapter 4, Acquisition and Disposition of Land by State Agencies.

Amended by Chapter 207, 2011 General Session

26-1-22. Budget preparation and submission to governor.

The department shall prepare and submit to the governor a proposed budget to be included in the budget submitted by the governor to the legislature for the fiscal year following the convening of the legislature.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-23. Regulations for local health departments prescribed by department -- Local standards not more stringent than federal or state standards -- Exceptions for written findings.

(1) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the department may prescribe by rule reasonable requirements not inconsistent with law for a local health department as defined in Section 26A-1-102.

(2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), or where specifically allowed by federal law or state statute, a local health department, as defined in Section 26A-1-102, may not establish standards or regulations that are more stringent than those established by federal law, state statute, or administrative rule adopted in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(3) (a) The local health department may make standards and regulations more stringent than corresponding federal law, state statute, or state administrative rules, only if the local health department makes a written finding after public comment and hearing and based on evidence in the record, that corresponding federal laws, state statutes, or state administrative rules are not adequate to protect public health of the state.

(b) The findings shall address the public health information and studies contained in the record, which form the basis for the local health department's conclusion.

(4) Nothing in the provisions of Subsection (2) or (3), shall limit the ability of a local health department to make standards and regulations in accordance with Subsection 26A-1-121(1)(a) for:

(a) emergency rules made in accordance with Section 63G-3-304; or

(b) items not regulated under federal law, state statute, or state administrative rule.

Amended by Chapter 307, 2012 General Session

26-1-23.5. Rules for sale of drugs, cosmetics, and medical devices.

The department shall establish and enforce rules for the sale or distribution of human drugs, cosmetics, and medical devices. The rules adopted under this section shall be no more stringent than those established by federal law.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 112, 1991 General Session

26-1-24. Hearings conducted by department.

The department may hold hearings, administer oaths, subpoena witnesses, and take testimony in matters relating to the exercise and performance of the powers and duties vested in or imposed upon the department. The department may, at its sole discretion, contract with any other agency or department of the state to conduct hearings in the name of the department.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-25. Principal and branch offices of department.

The principal office of the department shall be in Salt Lake County. The department may establish branch offices at other places in the state to furnish comprehensive and effective health programs and to render additional assistance to local health officials. This section does not limit the powers of local health agencies.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-1-26. Director of community health nursing appointed by executive director.

There shall be within the department a director of community health nursing appointed by the executive director who shall develop, implement, monitor, and evaluate community health nursing standards and services and participate in the formulation of policies for administration of health services.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-30. Powers and duties of department.

(1) The department shall:

(a) enter into cooperative agreements with the Department of Environmental Quality to delineate specific responsibilities to assure that assessment and management of risk to human health from the environment are properly administered; and

(b) consult with the Department of Environmental Quality and enter into cooperative agreements, as needed, to ensure efficient use of resources and effective response to potential health and safety threats from the environment, and to prevent gaps in protection from potential risks from the environment to specific individuals or population groups.

(2) In addition to all other powers and duties of the department, it shall have and exercise the following powers and duties:

(a) promote and protect the health and wellness of the people within the state;

(b) establish, maintain, and enforce rules necessary or desirable to carry out the provisions and purposes of this title to promote and protect the public health or to prevent disease and illness;

(c) investigate and control the causes of epidemic, infectious, communicable, and other diseases affecting the public health;

(d) provide for the detection, reporting, prevention, and control of communicable, infectious, acute, chronic, or any other disease or health hazard which the department considers to be dangerous, important, or likely to affect the public health;

(e) collect and report information on causes of injury, sickness, death, and disability and the risk factors that contribute to the causes of injury, sickness, death, and disability within the state;

(f) collect, prepare, publish, and disseminate information to inform the public concerning the health and wellness of the population, specific hazards, and risks that may affect the health and wellness of the population and specific activities which may promote and protect the health and wellness of the population;

(g) establish and operate programs necessary or desirable for the promotion or protection of the public health and the control of disease or which may be necessary to ameliorate the major causes of injury, sickness, death, and disability in the state, except that the programs may not be established if adequate programs exist in the private sector;

(h) establish, maintain, and enforce isolation and quarantine, and for this purpose only, exercise physical control over property and individuals as the department finds necessary for the protection of the public health;

(i) close theaters, schools, and other public places and forbid gatherings of people when necessary to protect the public health;

(j) abate nuisances when necessary to eliminate sources of filth and infectious and communicable diseases affecting the public health;

(k) make necessary sanitary and health investigations and inspections in cooperation with local health departments as to any matters affecting the public health;

(l) establish laboratory services necessary to support public health programs and medical services in the state;

(m) establish and enforce standards for laboratory services which are provided by any laboratory in the state when the purpose of the services is to protect the public health;

(n) cooperate with the Labor Commission to conduct studies of occupational health hazards and occupational diseases arising in and out of employment in industry, and make recommendations for elimination or reduction of the hazards;

(o) cooperate with the local health departments, the Department of Corrections, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Division of Juvenile Justice Services, and the Crime Victim Reparations Board to conduct testing for HIV infection of alleged sexual offenders, convicted sexual offenders, and any victims of a sexual offense;

(p) investigate the causes of maternal and infant mortality;

(q) establish, maintain, and enforce a procedure requiring the blood of adult pedestrians and drivers of motor vehicles killed in highway accidents be examined for the presence and concentration of alcohol;

(r) provide the Commissioner of Public Safety with monthly statistics reflecting the results of the examinations provided for in Subsection (2)(q) and provide safeguards so that information derived from the examinations is not used for a purpose other than

the compilation of statistics authorized in this Subsection (2)(r);

(s) establish qualifications for individuals permitted to draw blood pursuant to Subsection 41-6a-523(1)(a)(vi), 53-10-405(2)(a)(vi), or 72-10-502(5)(a)(vi), and to issue permits to individuals it finds qualified, which permits may be terminated or revoked by the department;

(t) establish a uniform public health program throughout the state which includes continuous service, employment of qualified employees, and a basic program of disease control, vital and health statistics, sanitation, public health nursing, and other preventive health programs necessary or desirable for the protection of public health;

(u) adopt rules and enforce minimum sanitary standards for the operation and maintenance of:

(i) orphanages;

(ii) boarding homes;

(iii) summer camps for children;

(iv) lodging houses;

(v) hotels;

(vi) restaurants and all other places where food is handled for commercial purposes, sold, or served to the public;

(vii) tourist and trailer camps;

(viii) service stations;

(ix) public conveyances and stations;

(x) public and private schools;

(xi) factories;

(xii) private sanatoria;

(xiii) barber shops;

(xiv) beauty shops;

(xv) physician offices;

(xvi) dentist offices;

(xvii) workshops;

(xviii) industrial, labor, or construction camps;

(xix) recreational resorts and camps;

(xx) swimming pools, public baths, and bathing beaches;

(xxi) state, county, or municipal institutions, including hospitals and other buildings, centers, and places used for public gatherings; and

(xxii) any other facilities in public buildings or on public grounds;

(v) conduct health planning for the state;

(w) monitor the costs of health care in the state and foster price competition in the health care delivery system;

(x) adopt rules for the licensure of health facilities within the state pursuant to Title 26, Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act;

(y) license the provision of child care;

(z) accept contributions to and administer the funds contained in the Organ Donation Contribution Fund created in Section 26-18b-101;

(aa) serve as the collecting agent, on behalf of the state, for the nursing care facility assessment fee imposed under Title 26, Chapter 35a, Nursing Care Facility Assessment Act, and adopt rules for the enforcement and administration of the nursing

facility assessment consistent with the provisions of Title 26, Chapter 35a; and

(bb) establish methods or measures for health care providers, public health entities, and health care insurers to coordinate among themselves to verify the identity of the individuals they serve.

Amended by Chapter 24, 2012 General Session
Amended by Chapter 267, 2012 General Session

26-1-30.5. Duty to establish pilot program for monitoring quality in health care.

(1) (a) Beginning July 1, 2010, the department shall develop a voluntary demonstration project to promote and monitor early intervention and resolution of unanticipated outcomes from medical care received by a patient.

(b) Implementation and execution of the demonstration project is contingent upon the amendment of a rule of evidence to protect the statements, affirmations, gestures, or conduct described in Section 78B-3-422.

(c) The department shall adopt administrative rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, which establish:

(i) the principles upon which the demonstration project shall be based; and

(ii) the method for implementation and evaluation of an open and honest dialogue between a health care provider and a patient, and the patient's representative, after an unanticipated event resulting from medical care provided to the patient.

(2) The demonstration project shall include at least the following:

(a) a collaborative, public-private effort to:

(i) avoid expensive and acrimonious litigation as a result of an unanticipated medical outcome; and

(ii) replace litigation with open and honest dialogue about issues raised in the course of a patient's medical care which resulted in the unanticipated outcome;

(b) a process for evaluating the effectiveness of the demonstration project in:

(i) preventing litigation of medical malpractice claims; and

(ii) providing appropriate and timely resolution of medical malpractice claims;

(c) a report to the Legislature's Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and Criminal Justice Interim Committee no later than November 30, 2012, which shall include the results of the demonstration project.

Amended by Chapter 344, 2010 General Session

26-1-32. Severability of code provisions.

If any provision of this code or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this code which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this code are declared to be severable.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-1-33. Individual rights protected.

Nothing in this title shall prohibit an individual from choosing the diet, therapy, or mode of treatment to be administered to an individual or an individual's family.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-1-34. Restricted account created to fund drug testing for law enforcement agencies.

(1) There is created within the General Fund a restricted account known as the State Laboratory Drug Testing Account.

(2) The account consists of a specified portion of fees generated under Subsection 53-3-106(5) from the reinstatement of certain licenses, which shall be deposited in this account.

(3) The Department of Health shall use funds in this account solely for the costs of performing drug and alcohol analysis tests for state and local law enforcement agencies, and may not assess any charge or fee to the law enforcement agencies for whom the analysis tests are performed.

Enacted by Chapter 247, 1998 General Session

26-1-35. Content and form of certificates and reports.

(1) Certificates, certifications, forms, reports, other documents and records, and the form of communication between persons required by this title shall be prepared in the form prescribed by department rule.

(2) Certificates, certifications, forms, reports, or other documents and records, and communications between persons required by this title may be signed, filed, verified, registered, and stored by photographic, electronic, or other means as prescribed by department rule.

Enacted by Chapter 86, 2000 General Session

26-1-36. Duty to establish program to reduce deaths and other harm from prescription opiates used for chronic noncancer pain.

(1) As used in this section, "opiate" means any drug or other substance having an addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining liability similar to morphine or being capable of conversion into a drug having addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining liability.

(2) In addition to the duties listed in Section 26-1-30, the department shall develop and implement a two-year program in coordination with the Division of Professional Licensing, the Utah Labor Commission, and the Utah attorney general, to:

(a) investigate the causes of and risk factors for death and nonfatal complications of prescription opiate use and misuse in Utah for chronic pain by utilizing the Utah Controlled Substance Database created in Section 58-37f-201;

(b) study the risks, warning signs, and solutions to the risks associated with prescription opiate medications for chronic pain, including risks and prevention of misuse and diversion of those medications;

(c) provide education to health care providers, patients, insurers, and the

general public on the appropriate management of chronic pain, including the effective use of medical treatment and quality care guidelines that are scientifically based and peer reviewed; and

(d) educate the public regarding:

(i) the purpose of the Controlled Substance Database established in Section 58-37f-201; and

(ii) the requirement that a person's name and prescription information be recorded on the database when the person fills a prescription for a schedule II, III, IV, or V controlled substance.

Amended by Chapter 43, 2013 General Session
Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-1-37. Duty to establish standards for the electronic exchange of clinical health information.

(1) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Affiliate" means an organization that directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with another organization.

(b) "Clinical health information" shall be defined by the department by administrative rule adopted in accordance with Subsection (2).

(c) "Electronic exchange":

(i) includes:

(A) the electronic transmission of clinical health data via Internet or extranet; and

(B) physically moving clinical health information from one location to another using magnetic tape, disk, or compact disc media; and

(ii) does not include exchange of information by telephone or fax.

(d) "Health care provider" means a licensing classification that is either:

(i) licensed under Title 58, Occupations and Professions, to provide health care; or

(ii) licensed under Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act.

(e) "Health care system" shall include:

(i) affiliated health care providers;

(ii) affiliated third party payers; and

(iii) other arrangement between organizations or providers as described by the department by administrative rule.

(f) "Qualified network" means an entity that:

(i) is a non-profit organization;

(ii) is accredited by the Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission, or another national accrediting organization recognized by the department; and

(iii) performs the electronic exchange of clinical health information among multiple health care providers not under common control, multiple third party payers not under common control, the department, and local health departments.

(g) "Third party payer" means:

(i) all insurers offering health insurance who are subject to Section 31A-22-614.5; and

(ii) the state Medicaid program.

(2) (a) In addition to the duties listed in Section 26-1-30, the department shall, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act:

(i) define:

(A) "clinical health information" subject to this section; and

(B) "health system arrangements between providers or organizations" as described in Subsection (1)(e)(iii); and

(ii) adopt standards for the electronic exchange of clinical health information between health care providers and third party payers that are for treatment, payment, health care operations, or public health reporting, as provided for in 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162, and 164, Health Insurance Reform: Security Standards.

(b) The department shall coordinate its rule making authority under the provisions of this section with the rule making authority of the Insurance Department under Section 31A-22-614.5. The department shall establish procedures for developing the rules adopted under this section, which ensure that the Insurance Department is given the opportunity to comment on proposed rules.

(3) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(e), a health care provider or third party payer in Utah is required to use the standards adopted by the department under the provisions of Subsection (2) if the health care provider or third party payer elects to engage in an electronic exchange of clinical health information with another health care provider or third party payer.

(b) A health care provider or third party payer may disclose information to the department or a local health department, by electronic exchange of clinical health information, as permitted by Subsection 45 C.F.R. 164.512(b).

(c) When functioning in its capacity as a health care provider or payer, the department or a local health department may disclose clinical health information by electronic exchange to another health care provider or third party payer.

(d) An electronic exchange of clinical health information by a health care provider, a third party payer, the department, or a local health department is a disclosure for treatment, payment, or health care operations if it complies with Subsection (3)(a) or (c) and is for treatment, payment, or health care operations, as those terms are defined in 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162, and 164.

(e) A health care provider or third party payer is not required to use the standards adopted by the department under the provisions of Subsection (2) if the health care provider or third party payer engage in the electronic exchange of clinical health information within a particular health care system.

(4) Nothing in this section shall limit the number of networks eligible to engage in the electronic data interchange of clinical health information using the standards adopted by the department under Subsection (2)(a)(ii).

(5) The department, a local health department, a health care provider, a third party payer, or a qualified network is not subject to civil liability for a disclosure of clinical health information if the disclosure is in accordance both with Subsection (3)(a) and with Subsection (3)(b), (3)(c), or (3)(d).

(6) Within a qualified network, information generated or disclosed in the

electronic exchange of clinical health information is not subject to discovery, use, or receipt in evidence in any legal proceeding of any kind or character.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-1-38. Local health emergency assistance program.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Local health department" has the same meaning as defined in Section 26A-1-102.

(b) "Local health emergency" means an unusual event or series of events causing or resulting in a substantial risk or substantial potential risk to the health of a significant portion of the population within the boundary of a local health department.

(c) "Program" means the local health emergency assistance program that the department is required to establish under this section.

(d) "Program fund" means money that the Legislature appropriates to the department for use in the program and other money otherwise made available for use in the program.

(2) The department shall establish, to the extent of funds appropriated by the Legislature or otherwise made available to the program fund, a local health emergency assistance program.

(3) Under the program, the department shall:

(a) provide a method for a local health department to seek reimbursement from the program fund for local health department expenses incurred in responding to a local health emergency;

(b) require matching funds from any local health department seeking reimbursement from the program fund;

(c) establish a method for apportioning money in the program fund to multiple local health departments when the total amount of concurrent requests for reimbursement by multiple local health departments exceeds the balance in the program fund; and

(d) establish by rule other provisions that the department considers necessary or advisable to implement the program.

(4) (a) (i) Subject to Subsection (4)(a)(ii), the department shall use money in the program fund exclusively for purposes of the program.

(ii) The department may use money in the program fund to cover its costs of administering the program.

(b) Money that the Legislature appropriates to the program fund is nonlapsing.

(c) Any interest earned on money in the program fund shall be deposited to the General Fund.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-2-1. Short title.

This chapter is known as the "Utah Vital Statistics Act."

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Advanced practice registered nurse" means a person licensed to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in this state under Title 58, Chapter 31b, Nurse Practice Act.

(2) "Custodial funeral service director" means a funeral service director who:

(a) is employed by a licensed funeral establishment; and

(b) has custody of a dead body.

(3) "Dead body" or "decedent" means a human body or parts of the human body from the condition of which it reasonably may be concluded that death occurred.

(4) "Dead fetus" means a product of human conception, other than those circumstances described in Subsection 76-7-301(1):

(a) of 16 weeks' gestation or more, calculated from the date the last normal menstrual period began to the date of delivery; and

(b) that was not born alive.

(5) "Declarant father" means a male who claims to be the genetic father of a child, and, along with the biological mother, signs a voluntary declaration of paternity to establish the child's paternity.

(6) "Dispositioner" means:

(a) a person designated in a written instrument, under Subsection 58-9-602(1), as having the right and duty to control the disposition of the decedent, if the person voluntarily acts as the dispositioner; or

(b) the next of kin of the decedent, if:

(i) (A) a person has not been designated as described in Subsection (6)(a); or

(B) the person described in Subsection (6)(a) is unable or unwilling to exercise the right and duty described in Subsection (6)(a); and

(ii) the next of kin voluntarily acts as the dispositioner.

(7) "File" means the submission of a completed certificate or other similar document, record, or report as provided under this chapter for registration by the state registrar or a local registrar.

(8) "Funeral service director" is as defined in Section 58-9-102.

(9) "Health care facility" is as defined in Section 26-21-2.

(10) "Health care professional" means a physician or nurse practitioner.

(11) "Licensed funeral establishment" means a funeral service establishment, as defined in Section 58-9-102, that is licensed under Title 58, Chapter 9, Funeral Services Licensing Act.

(12) "Live birth" means the birth of a child who shows evidence of life after the child is entirely outside of the mother.

(13) "Local registrar" means a person appointed under Subsection 26-2-3(2)(b).

(14) "Nurse practitioner" means an advanced practice registered nurse specializing as a nurse practitioner who has completed an education program regarding the completion of a certificate of death developed by the department by administrative rule adopted in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(15) "Physician" means a person licensed to practice as a physician or osteopath in this state under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice Act or Chapter

68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act.

(16) "Presumed father" means the father of a child conceived or born during a marriage as defined in Section 30-1-17.2.

(17) "Registration" or "register" means acceptance by the local or state registrar of a certificate and incorporation of the certificate into the permanent records of the state.

(18) "State registrar" means the state registrar of vital records appointed under Subsection 26-2-3(1)(e).

(19) "Vital records" means:

(a) registered certificates or reports of birth, death, fetal death, marriage, divorce, dissolution of marriage, or annulment;

(b) amendments to any of the registered certificates or reports described in Subsection (19)(a); and

(c) other similar documents.

(20) "Vital statistics" means the data derived from registered certificates and reports of birth, death, fetal death, induced termination of pregnancy, marriage, divorce, dissolution of marriage, or annulment.

Amended by Chapter 397, 2013 General Session

26-2-3. Department duties and authority.

(1) The department shall:

(a) provide offices properly equipped for the preservation of vital records made or received under this chapter;

(b) establish a statewide vital records system for the registration, collection, preservation, amendment, and certification of vital records and other similar documents required by this chapter and activities related to them, including the tabulation, analysis, and publication of vital statistics;

(c) prescribe forms for certificates, certification, reports, and other documents and records necessary to establish and maintain a statewide system of vital records;

(d) prepare an annual compilation, analysis, and publication of statistics derived from vital records; and

(e) appoint a state registrar to direct the statewide system of vital records.

(2) The department may:

(a) divide the state from time to time into registration districts; and

(b) appoint local registrars for registration districts who under the direction and supervision of the state registrar shall perform all duties required of them by this chapter and department rules.

(3) The state registrar appointed under Subsection (1)(e) shall, during the 2013 interim, report to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee on the feasibility of partnering with the public legal notice website described in Subsection 45-1-101(2)(b) to create a national putative father registry.

Amended by Chapter 474, 2013 General Session

26-2-4. Content and form of certificates and reports.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (5), to promote and maintain nationwide uniformity in the vital records system, the forms of certificates, certification, reports, and other documents and records required by this chapter or the rules implementing this chapter shall include as a minimum the items recommended by the federal agency responsible for national vital statistics, subject to approval, additions, and modifications by the department.

(2) Certificates, certifications, forms, reports, other documents and records, and the form of communications between persons required by this chapter shall be prepared in the format prescribed by department rule.

(3) All vital records shall include the date of filing.

(4) Certificates, certifications, forms, reports, other documents and records, and communications between persons required by this chapter may be signed, filed, verified, registered, and stored by photographic, electronic, or other means as prescribed by department rule.

(5) The state:

(a) may collect the Social Security number of a deceased individual; and

(b) may not include the Social Security number of an individual on a certificate of death.

Amended by Chapter 32, 2007 General Session

26-2-5. Birth certificates -- Execution and registration requirements.

(1) As used in this section, "birthing facility" means a general acute hospital or birthing center as defined in Section 26-21-2.

(2) For each live birth occurring in the state, a certificate shall be filed with the local registrar for the district in which the birth occurred within 10 days following the birth. The certificate shall be registered if it is completed and filed in accordance with this chapter.

(3) (a) For each live birth that occurs in a birthing facility, the administrator of the birthing facility, or his designee, shall obtain and enter the information required under this chapter on the certificate, securing the required signatures, and filing the certificate.

(b) (i) The date, time, place of birth, and required medical information shall be certified by the birthing facility administrator or his designee.

(ii) The attending physician or nurse midwife may sign the certificate, but if the attending physician or nurse midwife has not signed the certificate within seven days of the date of birth, the birthing facility administrator or his designee shall enter the attending physician's or nurse midwife's name and transmit the certificate to the local registrar.

(iii) The information on the certificate about the parents shall be provided and certified by the mother or father or, in their incapacity or absence, by a person with knowledge of the facts.

(4) (a) For live births that occur outside a birthing facility, the birth certificate shall be completed and filed by the physician, nurse, midwife, or other person primarily responsible for providing assistance to the mother at the birth. If there is no such person, either the presumed or declarant father shall complete and file the certificate. In his absence, the mother shall complete and file the certificate, and in the event of her

death or disability, the owner or operator of the premises where the birth occurred shall do so.

(b) The certificate shall be completed as fully as possible and shall include the date, time, and place of birth, the mother's name, and the signature of the person completing the certificate.

(5) (a) For each live birth to an unmarried mother that occurs in a birthing facility, the administrator or director of that facility, or his designee, shall:

(i) provide the birth mother and declarant father, if present, with:

(A) a voluntary declaration of paternity form published by the state registrar;

(B) oral and written notice to the birth mother and declarant father of the alternatives to, the legal consequences of, and the rights and responsibilities that arise from signing the declaration; and

(C) the opportunity to sign the declaration;

(ii) witness the signature of a birth mother or declarant father in accordance with Section 78B-15-302 if the signature occurs at the facility;

(iii) enter the declarant father's information on the original birth certificate, but only if the mother and declarant father have signed a voluntary declaration of paternity or a court or administrative agency has issued an adjudication of paternity; and

(iv) file the completed declaration with the original birth certificate.

(b) If there is a presumed father, the voluntary declaration will only be valid if the presumed father also signs the voluntary declaration.

(c) The state registrar shall file the information provided on the voluntary declaration of paternity form with the original birth certificate and may provide certified copies of the declaration of paternity as otherwise provided under Title 78B, Chapter 15, Utah Uniform Parentage Act.

(6) (a) The state registrar shall publish a form for the voluntary declaration of paternity, a description of the process for filing a voluntary declaration of paternity, and of the rights and responsibilities established or effected by that filing, in accordance with Title 78B, Chapter 15, Utah Uniform Parentage Act.

(b) Information regarding the form and services related to voluntary paternity establishment shall be made available to birthing facilities and to any other entity or individual upon request.

(7) The name of a declarant father may only be included on the birth certificate of a child of unmarried parents if:

(a) the mother and declarant father have signed a voluntary declaration of paternity; or

(b) a court or administrative agency has issued an adjudication of paternity.

(8) Voluntary declarations of paternity, adjudications of paternity by judicial or administrative agencies, and voluntary rescissions of paternity shall be filed with and maintained by the state registrar for the purpose of comparing information with the state case registry maintained by the Office of Recovery Services pursuant to Section 62A-11-104.

Amended by Chapter 3, 2008 General Session

26-2-5.5. Requirement to obtain parents' social security numbers.

(1) For each live birth that occurs in this state, the administrator of the birthing facility, as defined in Section 26-2-5, or other person responsible for completing and filing the birth certificate under Section 26-2-5 shall obtain the social security numbers of each parent and provide those numbers to the state registrar.

(2) Each parent shall furnish his or her social security number to the person authorized to obtain the numbers under Subsection (1) unless a court or administrative agency has determined there is good cause for not furnishing a number under Subsection (1).

(3) The state registrar shall, as soon as practicable, supply those social security numbers to the Office of Recovery Services within the Department of Human Services.

(4) The social security numbers obtained under this section may not be recorded on the child's birth certificate.

(5) The state may not use any social security number obtained under this section for any reason other than enforcement of child support orders in accordance with the federal Family Support Act of 1988, Public Law 100-485.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-6. Foundling certificates.

(1) A foundling certificate shall be filed for each infant of unknown parentage found in the state. The certificate shall be prepared and filed with the local registrar of the district in which the infant was found by the person assuming custody.

(2) The certificate shall be filed within 10 days after the infant is found and is acceptable for all purposes in lieu of a certificate of birth.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-7. Correction of errors or omissions in vital records.

The department may make rules governing applications to correct alleged errors or omissions on any vital record.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-8. Birth certificates -- Delayed registration.

(1) When a certificate of birth of a person born in this state has not been filed within the time provided in Subsection 26-2-5(2), a certificate of birth may be filed in accordance with department rules and subject to this section.

(2) (a) The registrar shall mark a certificate of birth as "delayed" and show the date of registration if the certificate is registered one year or more after the date of birth.

(b) The registrar shall abstract a summary statement of the evidence submitted in support of delayed registration onto the certificate.

(3) When the minimum evidence required for delayed registration is not submitted or when the state registrar has reasonable cause to question the validity or adequacy of the evidence supporting the application, and the deficiencies are not corrected, the state registrar:

(a) may not register the certificate; and

(b) shall provide the applicant with a written statement indicating the reasons for denial of registration.

(4) The state registrar has no duty to take further action regarding an application which is not actively pursued.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-9. Birth certificates -- Petition for issuance of delayed certificate -- Court procedure.

(1) If registration of a certificate of birth under Section 26-2-8 is denied, the person seeking registration may bring an action by a verified petition in the Utah district court encompassing where the petitioner resides or in the district encompassing Salt Lake City. The petition shall request an order establishing a record of the date and place of the birth and the parentage of the person whose birth is to be registered.

(2) The petition shall be on a form furnished by the state registrar and shall allege:

(a) the person for whom registration of a delayed certificate is sought was born in this state and is still living;

(b) no registered certificate of birth of the person can be found in the state office of vital statistics or the office of any local registrar;

(c) diligent efforts by the petitioner have failed to obtain the evidence required by department rule; and

(d) the state registrar has denied the petitioner's request to register a delayed certificate of birth.

(3) The petition shall be accompanied by a written statement of the state registrar indicating the reasons for denial of registration and all documentary evidence which was submitted in support of registration.

(4) The court shall fix a time and place for hearing the petition and shall give the state registrar 15 days notice of the hearing. The state registrar or his authorized representative may appear and testify at the hearing.

(5) (a) If the court finds the person for whom registration of a certificate of birth is sought under Section 26-2-8 was born in this state, it shall make findings as to the place and date of birth, parentage, and other findings as may be required and shall issue an order, on a form prescribed and furnished by the state registrar, to establish a court-ordered delayed certificate of birth. The order shall include the birth data to be registered, a description of the evidence presented, and the date of the court's action.

(b) The clerk of the court shall forward each order to the state registrar not later than the tenth day of the calendar month following the month in which the order was entered. The order shall be registered by the state registrar and constitutes the certificate of birth.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-10. Supplementary certificate of birth.

(1) Any person born in this state who is legitimized by the subsequent marriage of his natural parents, or whose parentage has been determined by any U.S. state court

or Canadian provincial court having jurisdiction, or who has been legally adopted under the law of this or any other state or any province of Canada, may request the state registrar to register a supplementary certificate of birth on the basis of that status.

(2) The application for registration of a supplementary certificate may be made by the person requesting registration, if he is of legal age, by a legal representative, or by any agency authorized to receive children for placement or adoption under the laws of this or any other state.

(3) (a) The state registrar shall require that an applicant submit identification and proof according to department rules.

(b) In the case of an adopted person, that proof may be established by order of the court in which the adoption proceedings were held.

(4) (a) After the supplementary certificate is registered, any information disclosed from the record shall be from the supplementary certificate.

(b) Access to the original certificate and to the evidence submitted in support of the supplementary certificate are not open to inspection except upon the order of a Utah district court or as provided under Section 78B-6-144.

Amended by Chapter 3, 2008 General Session

26-2-11. Name or sex change -- Registration of court order and amendment of birth certificate.

(1) When a person born in this state has a name change or sex change approved by an order of a Utah district court or a court of competent jurisdiction of another state or a province of Canada, a certified copy of the order may be filed with the state registrar with an application form provided by the registrar.

(2) (a) Upon receipt of the application, a certified copy of the order, and payment of the required fee, the state registrar shall review the application, and if complete, register it and note the fact of the amendment on the otherwise unaltered original certificate.

(b) The amendment shall be registered with and become a part of the original certificate and a certified copy shall be issued to the applicant without additional cost.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-12.5. Certified copies of birth certificates -- Fees credited to Children's Account.

(1) In addition to the fees provided for in Section 26-1-6, the department and local registrars authorized to issue certified copies shall charge an additional $3 fee for each certified copy of a birth certificate, including certified copies of supplementary and amended birth certificates, under Sections 26-2-8 through 26-2-11. This additional fee may be charged only for the first copy requested at any one time.

(2) The fee shall be transmitted monthly to the state treasurer and credited to the Children's Account established in Section 62A-4a-309.

Amended by Chapter 278, 2010 General Session

26-2-13. Certificate of death -- Execution and registration requirements.

(1) (a) A certificate of death for each death that occurs in this state shall be filed with the local registrar of the district in which the death occurs, or as otherwise directed by the state registrar, within five days after death and prior to the decedent's interment, any other disposal, or removal from the registration district where the death occurred.

(b) A certificate of death shall be registered if the certificate of death is completed and filed in accordance with this chapter.

(2) (a) If the place of death is unknown but the dead body is found in this state:

(i) the certificate of death shall be completed and filed in accordance with this section; and

(ii) the place where the dead body is found shall be shown as the place of death.

(b) If the date of death is unknown, the date shall be determined by approximation.

(3) (a) When death occurs in a moving conveyance in the United States and the decedent is first removed from the conveyance in this state:

(i) the certificate of death shall be filed with:

(A) the local registrar of the district where the decedent is removed; or

(B) a person designated by the state registrar; and

(ii) the place where the decedent is removed shall be considered the place of death.

(b) When a death occurs on a moving conveyance outside the United States and the decedent is first removed from the conveyance in this state:

(i) the certificate of death shall be filed with:

(A) the local registrar of the district where the decedent is removed; or

(B) a person designated by the state registrar; and

(ii) the certificate of death shall show the actual place of death to the extent it can be determined.

(4) (a) Subject to Subsections (4)(d) and (10), a custodial funeral service director or, if a funeral service director is not retained, a dispositioner shall sign the certificate of death.

(b) The custodial funeral service director, an agent of the custodial funeral service director, or, if a funeral service director is not retained, a dispositioner shall:

(i) file the certificate of death prior to any disposition of a dead body or fetus; and

(ii) obtain the decedent's personal data from the next of kin or the best qualified person or source available, including the decedent's Social Security number, if known.

(c) The certificate of death may not include the decedent's Social Security number.

(d) A dispositioner may not sign a certificate of death, unless the signature is witnessed by the state registrar or a local registrar.

(5) (a) Except as provided in Section 26-2-14, fetal death certificates, the medical section of the certificate of death shall be completed, signed, and returned to the funeral service director, or, if a funeral service director is not retained, a dispositioner, within 72 hours after death by the health care professional who was in charge of the decedent's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death, except

when inquiry is required by Title 26, Chapter 4, Utah Medical Examiner Act.

(b) In the absence of the health care professional or with the health care professional's approval, the certificate of death may be completed and signed by an associate physician, the chief medical officer of the institution in which death occurred, or a physician who performed an autopsy upon the decedent, if:

(i) the person has access to the medical history of the case;

(ii) the person views the decedent at or after death; and

(iii) the death is not due to causes required to be investigated by the medical examiner.

(6) When death occurs more than 30 days after the decedent was last treated by a health care professional, the case shall be referred to the medical examiner for investigation to determine and certify the cause, date, and place of death.

(7) When inquiry is required by Title 26, Chapter 4, Utah Medical Examiner Act, the medical examiner shall make an investigation and complete and sign the medical section of the certificate of death within 72 hours after taking charge of the case.

(8) If the cause of death cannot be determined within 72 hours after death:

(a) the medical section of the certificate of death shall be completed as provided by department rule;

(b) the attending health care professional or medical examiner shall give the funeral service director, or, if a funeral service director is not retained, a dispositioner, notice of the reason for the delay; and

(c) final disposition of the decedent may not be made until authorized by the attending health care professional or medical examiner.

(9) (a) When a death is presumed to have occurred within this state but the dead body cannot be located, a certificate of death may be prepared by the state registrar upon receipt of an order of a Utah district court.

(b) The order described in Subsection (9)(a) shall include a finding of fact stating the name of the decedent, the date of death, and the place of death.

(c) A certificate of death prepared under Subsection (9)(a) shall:

(i) show the date of registration; and

(ii) identify the court and the date of the order.

(10) It is unlawful for a dispositioner to charge for or accept any remuneration for:

(a) signing a certificate of death; or

(b) performing any other duty of a dispositioner, as described in this section.

Amended by Chapter 66, 2009 General Session
Amended by Chapter 68, 2009 General Session

26-2-14. Fetal death certificate -- Filing and registration requirements.

(1) A fetal death certificate shall be filed for each fetal death which occurs in this state. The certificate shall be filed within five days after delivery with the local registrar or as otherwise directed by the state registrar. The certificate shall be registered if it is completed and filed in accordance with this chapter.

(2) When a dead fetus is delivered in an institution, the institution administrator or his designated representative shall prepare and file the fetal death certificate. The

attending physician shall state in the certificate the cause of death and sign the certificate.

(3) When a dead fetus is delivered outside an institution, the physician in attendance at or immediately after delivery shall complete, sign, and file the fetal death certificate.

(4) When a fetal death occurs without medical attendance at or immediately after the delivery or when inquiry is required by Title 26, Chapter 4, Utah Medical Examiner Act, the medical examiner shall investigate the cause of death and prepare and file the certificate of fetal death within five days after taking charge of the case.

(5) When a fetal death occurs in a moving conveyance and the dead fetus is first removed from the conveyance in this state or when a dead fetus is found in this state and the place of death is unknown, the death shall be registered in this state. The place where the dead fetus was first removed from the conveyance or found shall be considered the place of death.

(6) Final disposition of the dead fetus may not be made until the fetal death certificate has been registered.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-14.1. Certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth.

(1) For purposes of this section and Section 26-2-14.2, "stillbirth" and "stillborn child" shall have the same meaning as "dead fetus" in Section 26-2-2.

(2) (a) In addition to the requirements of Section 26-2-14, the state registrar shall establish a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth on a form approved by the state registrar for each stillbirth occurring in this state.

(b) This certificate shall be offered to the parent or parents of a stillborn child.

(3) The certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth shall meet all of the format and filing requirements of Sections 26-2-4 and 26-2-5, relating to a live birth.

(4) The person who prepares a certificate pursuant to this section shall leave blank any references to the stillborn child's name if the stillborn child's parent or parents do not wish to provide a name for the stillborn child.

(5) Notwithstanding Subsections (2) and (3), the certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth shall be filed with the designated registrar within 10 days following the delivery and prior to cremation or removal of the fetus from the registration district.

Enacted by Chapter 69, 2002 General Session

26-2-14.2. Delayed registration of birth resulting in stillbirth.

When a birth resulting in stillbirth occurring in this state has not been registered within one year after the date of delivery, a certificate marked "delayed" may be filed and registered in accordance with department rule relating to evidentiary and other requirements sufficient to substantiate the alleged facts of birth resulting in stillbirth.

Enacted by Chapter 69, 2002 General Session

26-2-15. Petition for establishment of unregistered birth or death -- Court

procedure.

(1) A person holding a direct, tangible, and legitimate interest as described in Subsection 26-2-22(2)(a) or (b) may petition for a court order establishing the fact, time, and place of a birth or death that is not registered or for which a certified copy of the registered birth or death certificate is not obtainable. The person shall verify the petition and file it in the Utah district court for the county where:

(a) the birth or death is alleged to have occurred;

(b) the person resides whose birth is to be established; or

(c) the decedent named in the petition resided at the date of death.

(2) In order for the court to have jurisdiction, the petition shall:

(a) allege the date, time, and place of the birth or death; and

(b) state either that no certificate of birth or death has been registered or that a copy of the registered certificate cannot be obtained.

(3) The court shall set a hearing for five to 10 days after the filing of the petition.

(4) (a) If the time and place of birth or death are in question, the court shall hear available evidence and determine the time and place of the birth or death.

(b) If the time and place of birth or death are not in question, the court shall determine the time and place of birth or death to be those alleged in the petition.

(5) A court order under this section shall be made on a form prescribed and furnished by the department and is effective upon the filing of a certified copy of the order with the state registrar.

(6) (a) For purposes of this section, the birth certificate of an adopted alien child, as defined in Section 78B-6-108, is considered to be unobtainable if the child was born in a country that is not recognized by department rule as having an established vital records registration system.

(b) If the adopted child was born in a country recognized by department rule, but a person described in Subsection (1) is unable to obtain a certified copy of the birth certificate, the state registrar shall authorize the preparation of a birth certificate if he receives a written statement signed by the registrar of the child's birth country stating a certified copy of the birth certificate is not available.

Amended by Chapter 3, 2008 General Session

26-2-16. Certificate of death -- Duties of a custodial funeral service director, an agent of a funeral service director, or a dispositioner -- Medical certification -- Records of funeral service director or dispositioner -- Information filed with local registrar -- Unlawful signing of certificate of death.

(1) The custodial funeral service director or, if a funeral service director is not retained, a dispositioner shall sign the certificate of death prior to any disposition of a dead body or dead fetus.

(2) The custodial funeral service director, an agent of the custodial funeral service director, or, if a funeral service director is not retained, a dispositioner shall:

(a) obtain personal and statistical information regarding the decedent from the available persons best qualified to provide the information;

(b) present the certificate of death to the attending health care professional, if any, or to the medical examiner who shall certify the cause of death and other

information required on the certificate of death;

(c) provide the address of the custodial funeral service director or, if a funeral service director is not retained, a dispositioner;

(d) certify the date and place of burial; and

(e) file the certificate of death with the state or local registrar.

(3) A funeral service director, dispositioner, embalmer, or other person who removes a dead body or dead fetus from the place of death or transports or is in charge of final disposal of a dead body or dead fetus, shall keep a record identifying the dead body or dead fetus, and containing information pertaining to receipt, removal, and delivery of the dead body or dead fetus as prescribed by department rule.

(4) (a) Not later than the tenth day of each month, every licensed funeral service establishment shall send to the local registrar and the department a list of the information required in Subsection (3) for each casket furnished and for funerals performed when no casket was furnished, during the preceding month.

(b) The list described in Subsection (4)(a) shall be in the form prescribed by the state registrar.

(5) Any person who intentionally signs the portion of a certificate of death that is required to be signed by a funeral service director or a dispositioner under Subsection (1) is guilty of a class B misdemeanor, unless the person:

(a) (i) is a funeral service director; and

(ii) is employed by a licensed funeral establishment; or

(b) is a dispositioner, if a funeral service director is not retained.

(6) The state registrar shall post information on the state registrar's website, providing instructions to a dispositioner for complying with the requirements of law relating to the dispositioner's responsibilities for:

(a) completing and filing a certificate of death; and

(b) possessing, transporting, and disposing of a dead body or dead fetus.

(7) The provisions of this chapter shall be construed to avoid interference, to the fullest extent possible, with the ceremonies, customs, rites, or beliefs of the decedent and the decedent's next of kin for disposing of a dead body or dead fetus.

Amended by Chapter 66, 2009 General Session
Amended by Chapter 68, 2009 General Session

26-2-17. Certificate of death -- Registration prerequisite to interment -- Burial-transit permits -- Procedure where body donated under anatomical gift law -- Permit for disinterment.

(1) A dead body or dead fetus may not be interred or otherwise disposed of or removed from the registration district in which death or fetal death occurred or the remains are found until a certificate of death is registered.

(2) For deaths or fetal deaths which occur in this state, no burial-transit permit is required for final disposition of the remains if:

(a) disposition occurs in the state and is performed by a funeral service director; or

(b) the disposition takes place with authorization of the next of kin and in a general acute hospital, as defined in Section 26-21-2, that is licensed by the

department, or in a pathology laboratory operated under contract with a general acute hospital licensed by the department.

(3) A burial-transit permit shall be issued by the local registrar of the district where the certificate of death or fetal death is registered:

(a) for dead bodies or fetuses to be transported out of the state for final disposition; or

(b) when disposition is made by a person other than a funeral service director.

(4) A burial-transit permit issued under the law of another state which accompanies a dead body or dead fetus brought into this state is authority for final disposition of the dead body or dead fetus in this state.

(5) When a dead body or dead fetus or any part of the dead body or dead fetus has been donated under the Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act or similar laws of another state and the preservation of the gift requires the immediate transportation of the dead body, dead fetus, or any part of the body or fetus outside of the registration district in which death occurs or the remains are found, or into this state from another state, the dead body or dead fetus or any part of the body or fetus may be transported and the burial-transit permit required by this section obtained within a reasonable time after transportation.

(6) A permit for disinterment and reinterment is required prior to disinterment of a dead body or dead fetus, except as otherwise provided by statute or department rule.

Amended by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-2-18. Interments -- Duties of sexton or person in charge -- Record of interments -- Information filed with local registrar.

(1) (a) A sexton or person in charge of any premises in which interments are made may not inter or permit the interment of any dead body or dead fetus unless the interment is made by a funeral service director or by a person holding a burial-transit permit.

(b) The right and duty to control the disposition of a deceased person shall be governed by Sections 58-9-601 through 58-9-604.

(2) (a) The sexton or the person in charge of any premises where interments are made shall keep a record of all interments made in the premises under his charge, stating the name of the decedent, place of death, date of burial, and name and address of the funeral service director or other person making the interment.

(b) The record described in this Subsection (2) shall be open to public inspection.

(c) A city or county clerk may, at the clerk's option, maintain the interment records described in this Subsection (2) on behalf of the sexton or person in charge of any premises in which interments are made.

(3) (a) Not later than the tenth day of each month, the sexton, person in charge of the premises, or city or county clerk who maintains the interment records shall send to the local registrar and the department a list of all interments made in the premises during the preceding month.

(b) The list described in Subsection (3)(a) shall be in the form prescribed by the state registrar.

Amended by Chapter 56, 2006 General Session

26-2-18.5. Rendering a dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Medical examiner" is as defined in Section 26-4-2.

(b) "Unavailable for postmortem investigation" is as defined in Section 26-4-2.

(2) It is unlawful for a person to engage in any conduct that makes a dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation, unless, before engaging in that conduct, the person obtains a permit from the medical examiner to render the dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation, under Section 26-4-29.

(3) A person who violates Subsection (2) is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

(4) If a person engages in conduct that constitutes both a violation of this section and a violation of Section 76-9-704, the provisions and penalties of Section 76-9-704 supercede the provisions and penalties of this section.

Enacted by Chapter 223, 2009 General Session

26-2-19. Rules of department for transmittal of certificates and keeping of records by local registrar.

Each local registrar shall transmit all records registered by him to the department in accordance with department rules. The manner of keeping local copies of vital records and the uses of them shall be prescribed by department rules.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-21. Local registrars authorized to issue certified copies of records.

The state registrar may authorize local registrars to issue certified copies of vital records.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-22. Inspection of vital records.

(1) (a) The vital records shall be open to inspection, but only in compliance with the provisions of this chapter, department rules, and Section 78B-6-144.

(b) It is unlawful for any state or local officer or employee to disclose data contained in vital records contrary to this chapter or department rule.

(c) A custodian of vital records may permit inspection of a vital record or issue a certified copy of a record or a part of a record when the custodian is satisfied that the applicant has demonstrated a direct, tangible, and legitimate interest.

(2) A direct, tangible, and legitimate interest in a vital record is present only if:

(a) the request is from:

(i) the subject;

(ii) a member of the subject's immediate family;

(iii) the guardian of the subject;

(iv) a designated legal representative of the subject; or

(v) a person, including a child-placing agency as defined in Section 78B-6-103, with whom a child has been placed pending finalization of an adoption of the child;

(b) the request involves a personal or property right of the subject of the record;

(c) the request is for official purposes of a public health authority or a state, local, or federal governmental agency;

(d) the request is for a statistical or medical research program and prior consent has been obtained from the state registrar; or

(e) the request is a certified copy of an order of a court of record specifying the record to be examined or copied.

(3) For purposes of Subsection (2):

(a) "immediate family member" means a spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandparent, or grandchild;

(b) a designated legal representative means an attorney, physician, funeral service director, genealogist, or other agent of the subject or the subject's immediate family who has been delegated the authority to access vital records;

(c) except as provided in Title 78B, Chapter 6, Part 1, Utah Adoption Act, a parent, or the immediate family member of a parent, who does not have legal or physical custody of or visitation or parent-time rights for a child because of the termination of parental rights pursuant to Title 78A, Chapter 6, Juvenile Court Act of 1996, or by virtue of consenting to or relinquishing a child for adoption pursuant to Title 78B, Chapter 6, Part 1, Utah Adoption Act, may not be considered as having a direct, tangible, and legitimate interest; and

(d) a commercial firm or agency requesting names, addresses, or similar information may not be considered as having a direct, tangible, and legitimate interest.

(4) Upon payment of a fee established in accordance with Section 63J-1-504, the following records shall be available to the public:

(a) except as provided in Subsection 26-2-10(4)(b), a birth record, excluding confidential information collected for medical and health use, if 100 years or more have passed since the date of birth;

(b) a death record if 50 years or more have passed since the date of death; and

(c) a vital record not subject to Subsection (4)(a) or (b) if 75 years or more have passed since the date of the event upon which the record is based.

Amended by Chapter 391, 2012 General Session

26-2-23. Records required to be kept by health care institutions -- Information filed with local registrar and department.

(1) (a) All administrators or other persons in charge of hospitals, nursing homes, or other institutions, public or private, to which persons resort for treatment of diseases, confinements, or are committed by law, shall record all the personal and statistical information about patients of their institutions as required in certificates prescribed by this chapter.

(b) The information described in Subsection (1)(a) shall:

(i) be recorded for collection at the time of admission of a patient;

(ii) be obtained from the patient, if possible; and

(iii) if the information cannot be obtained from the patient, the information shall be secured in as complete a manner as possible from other persons acquainted with the facts.

(2) (a) When a dead body or dead fetus is released or disposed of by an institution, the person in charge of the institution shall keep a record showing:

(i) the name of the deceased;

(ii) the date of death of the deceased;

(iii) the name and address of the person to whom the dead body or dead fetus is released; and

(iv) the date that the dead body or dead fetus is removed from the institution.

(b) If final disposal is by the institution, the date, place, manner of disposition, and the name of the person authorizing disposition shall be recorded by the person in charge of the institution.

(3) Not later than the tenth day of each month, the administrator of each institution shall cause to be sent to the local registrar and the department a list of all births, deaths, fetal deaths, and induced abortions occurring in the institution during the preceding month. The list shall be in the form prescribed by the state registrar.

(4) A person or institution who, in good faith, releases a dead body or dead fetus, under this section, to a funeral service director or a dispositioner is immune from civil liability connected, directly or indirectly, with release of the dead body or dead fetus.

Amended by Chapter 68, 2009 General Session

26-2-24. Marriage licenses -- Execution and filing requirements.

The state registrar shall supply county clerks with application forms for marriage licenses. Completed applications shall be transmitted by the clerks to the state registrar monthly. The personal identification information contained on each application for a marriage license filed with the county clerk shall be entered on a form supplied by the state registrar. The person performing the marriage shall furnish the date and place of marriage and his name and address. The form shall be completed and certified by the county clerk before it is filed with the state registrar.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-25. Divorce or adoption -- Duty of court clerk to file certificates or reports.

(1) (a) For each adoption, annulment of adoption, divorce, and annulment of marriage ordered or decreed in this state, the clerk of the court shall prepare a divorce certificate or report of adoption on a form furnished by the state registrar. The petitioner shall provide the information necessary to prepare the certificate or report when he files the petition with the clerk.

(b) The clerk shall prepare the certificate or report and, immediately after the decree or order becomes final, shall complete the remaining entries. On or before the 15th day of each month, the clerk shall forward the divorce certificates and reports of adoption completed by him during the preceding month to the state registrar.

(2) If there is filed with the clerk of the court in an adoption proceeding a written consent to adoption by an agency licensed under the laws of the state to receive children for placement or adoption, the agency by its authorized representative shall prepare and complete the report of adoption and forward it to the state registrar immediately after entry of the decree of adoption.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-26. Certified copies of vital records -- Preparation by state and local registrars -- Evidentiary value.

(1) The state registrar and local registrars authorized by the department under Section 26-2-21 may prepare typewritten, photographic, electronic, or other reproductions of vital records and certify their correctness.

(2) Certified copies of the vital record, or authorized reproductions of the original, issued by either the state registrar or a designated local registrar are prima facie evidence in all courts of the state with like effect as the vital record.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-2-27. Identifying birth certificates of missing persons -- Procedures.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Division" means the Criminal Investigations and Technical Services Division, Department of Public Safety, in Title 53, Chapter 10, Criminal Investigation and Technical Services Act.

(b) "Missing child" means a person younger than 18 years of age who is missing from the person's home environment or a temporary placement facility for any reason, and whose whereabouts cannot be determined by the person responsible for the child's care.

(c) "Missing person" means a person who:

(i) is missing from the person's home environment; and

(ii) (A) has a physical or mental disability;

(B) is missing under circumstances that indicate that the person is endangered, missing involuntarily, or a victim of a catastrophe; or

(C) is a missing child.

(2) (a) In accordance with Section 53-10-203, upon the state registrar's notification by the division that a person who was born in this state is missing, the state and local registrars shall flag the registered birth certificate of that person so that when a copy of the registered birth certificate or information regarding the birth record is requested, the state and local registrars are alerted to the fact the registered birth certificate is that of a missing person.

(b) Upon notification by the division the missing person has been recovered, the state and local registrars shall remove the flag from that person's registered birth certificate.

(3) The state and local registrars may not provide a copy of a registered birth certificate of any person whose record is flagged under Subsection (2), except as approved by the division.

(4) (a) When a copy of the registered birth certificate of a person whose record has been flagged is requested in person, the state or local registrar shall require that person to complete a form supplying that person's name, address, telephone number, and relationship to the missing person, and the name and birth date of the missing person.

(b) The state or local registrar shall inform the requester that a copy of the registered birth certificate will be mailed to the requester.

(c) The state or local registrar shall note the physical description of the person making the request, and shall immediately notify the division of the request and the information obtained pursuant to this Subsection (4).

(5) When a copy of the registered birth certificate of a person whose record has been flagged is requested in writing, the state or local registrar or personnel of the state or local registrar shall immediately notify the division, and provide it with a copy of the written request.

Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-2-28. Birth certificate for foreign adoptees.

Upon presentation of a court order of adoption and an order establishing the fact, time, and place of birth under Section 26-2-15, the department shall prepare a birth certificate for any person who:

(1) was adopted under the laws of this state; and

(2) was at the time of adoption considered an alien child for whom the court received documentary evidence of legal residence under Section 78B-6-108.

Amended by Chapter 3, 2008 General Session

26-3-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Disclosure" or "disclose" means the communication of health data to any individual or organization outside the department.

(2) "Health data" means any information, except vital records as defined in Section 26-2-2, relating to the health status of individuals, the availability of health resources and services, and the use and cost of these resources and services.

(3) "Identifiable health data" means any item, collection, or grouping of health data which makes the individual supplying it or described in it identifiable.

(4) "Individual" means a natural person.

(5) "Organization" means any corporation, association, partnership, agency, department, unit, or other legally constituted institution or entity, or part of any of these.

(6) "Research and statistical purposes" means the performance of activities relating to health data, including:

(a) describing the group characteristics of individuals or organizations;

(b) analyzing the interrelationships among the various characteristics of individuals or organizations;

(c) the conduct of statistical procedures or studies to improve the quality of health data;

(d) the design of sample surveys and the selection of samples of individuals or organizations;
(e) the preparation and publication of reports describing these matters; and
(f) other related functions.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-3-2. Powers of department to collect and maintain health data.

The department may on a voluntary basis, except when there is specific legal authority to compel reporting of health data:
(1) collect and maintain health data on:
(a) the extent, nature, and impact of illness and disability on the population of the state;
(b) the determinants of health and health hazards;
(c) health resources, including the extent of available manpower and resources;
(d) utilization of health care;
(e) health care costs and financing; or
(f) other health or health-related matters;
(2) undertake and support research, demonstrations, and evaluations respecting new or improved methods for obtaining current data on the matters referred to in Subsection (1) of this section;
(3) collect health data under other authorities and on behalf of other governmental or not-for-profit organizations.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-3-4. Quality and publication of statistics.

The department shall:
(1) take such actions as may be necessary to assure that statistics developed under this chapter are of high quality, timely, and comprehensive, as well as specific, standardized, and adequately analyzed and indexed; and
(2) publish, make available, and disseminate such statistics on as wide a basis as practicable.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-3-5. Coordination of health data collection activities.

(1) The department shall coordinate health data activities within the state to eliminate unnecessary duplication of data collection and maximize the usefulness of data collected.
(2) Except as specifically provided, this chapter does not independently provide authority for the department to compel the reporting of information.

Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-3-6. Uniform standards -- Powers of department.

The department may:

(1) participate and cooperate with state, local, and federal agencies and other organizations in the design and implementation of uniform standards for the management of health information at the federal, state, and local levels; and

(2) undertake and support research, development, demonstrations, and evaluations that support uniform health information standards.

Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-3-7. Disclosure of health data -- Limitations.

The department may not disclose any identifiable health data unless:

(1) one of the following persons has consented to the disclosure:

(a) the individual;

(b) the next-of-kin if the individual is deceased;

(c) the parent or legal guardian if the individual is a minor or mentally incompetent; or

(d) a person holding a power of attorney covering such matters on behalf of the individual;

(2) the disclosure is to a governmental entity in this or another state or the federal government, provided that:

(a) the data will be used for a purpose for which they were collected by the department; and

(b) the recipient enters into a written agreement satisfactory to the department agreeing to protect such data in accordance with the requirements of this chapter and department rule and not permit further disclosure without prior approval of the department;

(3) the disclosure is to an individual or organization, for a specified period, solely for bona fide research and statistical purposes, determined in accordance with department rules, and the department determines that the data are required for the research and statistical purposes proposed and the requesting individual or organization enters into a written agreement satisfactory to the department to protect the data in accordance with this chapter and department rule and not permit further disclosure without prior approval of the department;

(4) the disclosure is to a governmental entity for the purpose of conducting an audit, evaluation, or investigation of the department and such governmental entity agrees not to use those data for making any determination affecting the rights, benefits, or entitlements of any individual to whom the health data relates;

(5) the disclosure is of specific medical or epidemiological information to authorized personnel within the department, local health departments, public health authorities, official health agencies in other states, the United States Public Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or agencies responsible to enforce quarantine, when necessary to continue patient services or to undertake public health efforts to control communicable, infectious, acute, chronic, or any other disease or health hazard that the department considers to be dangerous or important or that may affect the public health;

(6) (a) the disclosure is of specific medical or epidemiological information to a

"health care provider" as defined in Section 78B-3-403, health care personnel, or public health personnel who has a legitimate need to have access to the information in order to assist the patient or to protect the health of others closely associated with the patient; and

(b) this Subsection (6) does not create a duty to warn third parties;

(7) the disclosure is necessary to obtain payment from an insurer or other third-party payor in order for the department to obtain payment or to coordinate benefits for a patient; or

(8) the disclosure is to the subject of the identifiable health data.

Amended by Chapter 278, 2013 General Session

26-3-8. Disclosure of health data -- Discretion of department.

Any disclosure provided for in Section 26-3-7 shall be made at the discretion of the department, except that the disclosure provided for in Subsection 26-3-7(4) shall be made when the requirements of that paragraph are met.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-3-9. Health data not subject to subpoena or compulsory process -- Exception.

Identifiable health data obtained in the course of activities undertaken or supported under this chapter may not be subject to discovery, subpoena, or similar compulsory process in any civil or criminal, judicial, administrative, or legislative proceeding, nor shall any individual or organization with lawful access to identifiable health data under the provisions of this chapter be compelled to testify with regard to such health data, except that data pertaining to a party in litigation may be subject to subpoena or similar compulsory process in an action brought by or on behalf of such individual to enforce any liability arising under this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-3-10. Department measures to protect security of health data.

The department shall protect the security of identifiable health data by use of the following measures and any other measures adopted by rule:

(1) limit access to identifiable health data to authorized individuals who have received training in the handling of such data;

(2) designate a person to be responsible for physical security;

(3) develop and implement a system for monitoring security; and

(4) review periodically all identifiable health data to determine whether identifying characteristics should be removed from the data.

Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-3-11. Relation to other chapters.

Because Chapters 2, 4, 6, and 33a contain specific provisions regarding

collection and disclosure of data, the provisions of this chapter do not apply to data subject to those chapters.

Amended by Chapter 243, 2005 General Session

26-4-1. Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Utah Medical Examiner Act."

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-4-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Dead body" is as defined in Section 26-2-2.

(2) "Death by violence" means death that resulted by the decedent's exposure to physical, mechanical, or chemical forces, and includes death which appears to have been due to homicide, death which occurred during or in an attempt to commit rape, mayhem, kidnapping, robbery, burglary, housebreaking, extortion, or blackmail accompanied by threats of violence, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault with intent to commit any offense punishable by imprisonment for more than one year, arson punishable by imprisonment for more than one year, or any attempt to commit any of the foregoing offenses.

(3) "Medical examiner" means the state medical examiner appointed pursuant to Section 26-4-4 or a deputy appointed by the medical examiner.

(4) "Regional pathologist" means a trained pathologist licensed to practice medicine and surgery in the state, appointed by the medical examiner pursuant to Subsection 26-4-4(3).

(5) "Sudden death while in apparent good health" means apparently instantaneous death without obvious natural cause, death during or following an unexplained syncope or coma, or death during an acute or unexplained rapidly fatal illness.

(6) "Sudden infant death syndrome" means the death of a child who was thought to be in good health or whose terminal illness appeared to be so mild that the possibility of a fatal outcome was not anticipated.

(7) "Suicide" means death caused by an intentional and voluntary act of a person who understands the physical nature of the act and intends by such act to accomplish self-destruction.

(8) "Unattended death" means the death of a person who has not been seen by a physician within the scope of the physician's professional capacity within 30 days immediately prior to the date of death. This definition does not require an investigation, autopsy, or inquest in any case where death occurred without medical attendance solely because the deceased was under treatment by prayer or spiritual means alone in accordance with the tenets and practices of a well-recognized church or religious denomination.

(9) (a) "Unavailable for postmortem investigation" means that a dead body is:

(i) transported out of state;

(ii) buried at sea;
(iii) cremated; or
(iv) otherwise made unavailable to the medical examiner for postmortem investigation or autopsy.
(b) "Unavailable for postmortem investigation" does not include embalming or burial of a dead body pursuant to the requirements of law.
(10) "Within the scope of the decedent's employment" means all acts reasonably necessary or incident to the performance of work, including matters of personal convenience and comfort not in conflict with specific instructions.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-4-4. Chief medical examiner -- Appointment -- Qualifications -- Authority.
(1) The executive director, with the advice of an advisory board consisting of the chairman of the Department of Pathology at the University of Utah medical school and the dean of the law school at the University of Utah, shall appoint a chief medical examiner who shall be licensed to practice medicine in the state and shall meet the qualifications of a forensic pathologist, certified by the American Board of Pathologists.
(2) (a) The medical examiner shall serve at the will of the executive director.
(b) The medical examiner has authority to:
(i) employ medical, technical and clerical personnel as may be required to effectively administer this chapter, subject to the rules of the department and the state merit system;
(ii) conduct investigations and pathological examinations;
(iii) perform autopsies authorized in this title;
(iv) conduct or authorize necessary examinations on dead bodies; and
(v) notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection 26-28-122(3), retain tissues and biological samples for scientific purposes and those the medical examiner considers necessary to accurately certify the cause and manner of death.
(c) In the case of an unidentified body, the medical examiner shall authorize or conduct investigations, tests and processes in order to determine its identity as well as the cause of death.
(3) The medical examiner may appoint regional pathologists, each of whom shall be approved by the executive director.

Amended by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-4-5. County medical examiners.
The county executive, with the advice and consent of the county legislative body, may appoint medical examiners for their respective counties.

Amended by Chapter 227, 1993 General Session

26-4-6. Investigation of deaths -- Requests for autopsies.
(1) The following have authority to investigate a death described in Section

26-4-7 and any other case which may be within their jurisdiction:

(a) the attorney general or an assistant attorney general;

(b) the district attorney or county attorney who has criminal jurisdiction over the death or case;

(c) a deputy of the district attorney or county attorney described in Subsection (1)(b); or

(d) a peace officer within the jurisdiction described in Subsection (1)(b).

(2) If, in the opinion of the medical examiner, an autopsy should be performed or if an autopsy is requested by the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction, or by the attorney general, the autopsy shall be performed by the medical examiner or a regional pathologist.

Amended by Chapter 63, 2009 General Session

26-4-7. Custody by medical examiner.

Upon notification under Section 26-4-8 or investigation by the medical examiner's office, the medical examiner shall assume custody of a deceased body if it appears that death was:

(1) by violence, gunshot, suicide, or accident;

(2) sudden death while in apparent good health;

(3) unattended deaths, except that an autopsy may only be performed in accordance with the provisions of Subsection 26-4-9(3);

(4) under suspicious or unusual circumstances;

(5) resulting from poisoning or overdose of drugs;

(6) resulting from diseases that may constitute a threat to the public health;

(7) resulting from disease, injury, toxic effect, or unusual exertion incurred within the scope of the decedent's employment;

(8) due to sudden infant death syndrome;

(9) resulting while the decedent was in prison, jail, police custody, the state hospital, or in a detention or medical facility operated for the treatment of persons with a mental illness, persons who are emotionally disturbed, or delinquent persons;

(10) associated with diagnostic or therapeutic procedures; or

(11) described in this section when request is made to assume custody by a county or district attorney or law enforcement agency in connection with a potential homicide investigation or prosecution.

Amended by Chapter 183, 2012 General Session

26-4-8. Discovery of dead body -- Notice requirements -- Procedure.

(1) When death occurs under circumstances listed in Section 26-4-7, the person or persons finding or having custody of the body shall immediately notify the nearest law enforcement agency. The law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the case shall then proceed to the place where the body is and conduct an investigation concerning the cause and circumstances of death for the purpose of determining whether there exists any criminal responsibility for the death.

(2) On a determination by the law enforcement agency that death may have

occurred in any of the ways described in Section 26-4-7, the death shall be reported to the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction and to the medical examiner by the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the investigation.

(3) The report shall be made by the most expeditious means available. Failure to give notification or report to the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction and medical examiner is a class B misdemeanor.

Amended by Chapter 38, 1993 General Session

26-4-9. Custody of dead body and personal effects -- Examination of scene of death -- Preservation of body -- Autopsies.

(1) Upon notification of a death under Section 26-4-8, the medical examiner shall assume custody of the deceased body, clothing on the body, biological samples taken, and any article on or near the body which may aid the medical examiner in determining the cause of death except those articles which will assist the investigative agency to proceed without delay with the investigation. In all cases the scene of the event may not be disturbed until authorization is given by the senior ranking peace officer from the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction of the case and conducting the investigation. Where death appears to have occurred under circumstances listed in Section 26-4-7, the person or persons finding or having custody of the body, or jurisdiction over the investigation of the death, shall take reasonable precautions to preserve the body and body fluids so that minimum deterioration takes place. The body may not be moved without permission of the medical examiner, district attorney, or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction, or his authorized deputy except in cases of affront to public decency or circumstances where it is not practical to leave the body where found, or in such cases where the cause of death is clearly due to natural causes. The body can under direction of a licensed physician or the medical examiner or his designated representative be moved to a place specified by a funeral director, the attending physician, the medical examiner, or his representative.

(2) In the event the body, where referred to the medical examiner, is moved, no cleansing or embalming of the body shall occur without the permission of the medical examiner. An intentional or knowing violation of this Subsection (2) is a class B misdemeanor.

(3) When the medical examiner assumes lawful custody of a body under Subsection 26-4-7(3) solely because the death was unattended, an autopsy may not be performed unless requested by the district attorney, county attorney having criminal jurisdiction, or law enforcement agency having jurisdiction of the place where the body is found, or a licensed physician, or a spouse, child, parent or guardian of the deceased, and a licensed physician. The county attorney or district attorney and law enforcement agency having jurisdiction shall consult with the medical examiner to determine the need for an autopsy. In any such case concerning unattended deaths qualifying as exempt from autopsy, a death certificate may be certified by a licensed physician. In this case the physician may be established as the medical examiner's designated representative. Requested autopsies may not be performed when the medical examiner or the medical examiner's designated representative determines the autopsy to be unnecessary, provided that an autopsy requested by a district or county

attorney or law enforcement agency may only be determined to be unnecessary if the cause of death can be ascertained without an autopsy being performed.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-4-10. Certification of cause of death.

The certification of the cause of death under any of the circumstances listed in Section 26-4-7 shall only be made by the medical examiner or his designated representative. Certification of the cause of death or signature on the certificate of death by any other person is a class B misdemeanor.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-4-11. Records and reports of investigations.

A complete copy of all written records and reports of investigations and facts resulting from medical care treatment, autopsies conducted by any person on the body of the deceased who died in any manner listed in Section 26-4-7 and the written reports of any investigative agency making inquiry into the incident shall be promptly made and filed with the medical examiner. Failure to submit reports other than reports of a county attorney, district attorney, or law enforcement agency, upon written request from the medical examiner within 10 days is a class B misdemeanor.

Amended by Chapter 38, 1993 General Session

26-4-12. Order to exhume body -- Procedure.

(1) In case of any death described in Section 26-4-7, when a body is buried without an investigation by the medical examiner as to the cause and manner of death, it shall be the duty of the medical examiner, upon being advised of the fact, to notify the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction where the body is buried or death occurred. Upon notification, the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction may file an action in the district court to obtain an order to exhume the body. A district judge may order the body exhumed upon an ex parte hearing.

(2) (a) A body may not be exhumed until notice of the order has been served upon the executor or administrator of the deceased's estate, or if no executor or administrator has been appointed, upon the nearest heir of the deceased, determined as if the deceased had died intestate. If the nearest heir of the deceased cannot be located within the jurisdiction, then the next heir in succession within the jurisdiction may be served.

(b) The executor, administrator, or heir shall have 24 hours to notify the issuing court of any objection to the order prior to the time the body is exhumed. If no heirs can be located within the jurisdiction within 24 hours, the facts shall be reported to the issuing court which may order that the body be exhumed forthwith.

(c) Notification to the executor, administrator, or heir shall specifically state the nature of the action and the fact that any objection shall be filed with the issuing court within 24 hours of the time of service.

(d) In the event an heir files an objection, the court shall set hearing on the

matter at the earliest possible time and issue an order on the matter immediately at the conclusion of the hearing. Upon the receipt of notice of objection, the court shall immediately notify the county attorney who requested the order, so that the interest of the state may be represented at the hearing.

(e) When there is reason to believe that death occurred in a manner described in Section 26-4-7, the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction may make a motion that the court, upon ex parte hearing, order the body exhumed forthwith and without notice. Upon a showing of exigent circumstances the court may order the body exhumed forthwith and without notice. In any event, upon motion of the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction and upon the personal appearance of the medical examiner, the court for good cause may order the body exhumed forthwith and without notice.

(3) An order to exhume a body shall be directed to the medical examiner, commanding the medical examiner to cause the body to be exhumed, perform the required autopsy, and properly cause the body to be reburied upon completion of the examination.

(4) The examination shall be completed and the complete autopsy report shall be made to the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction for any action the attorney considers appropriate. The district attorney or county attorney shall submit the return of the order to exhume within 10 days in the manner prescribed by the issuing court.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-4-13. Autopsies -- When authorized.

(1) The medical examiner shall perform an autopsy to:

(a) aid in the discovery and prosecution of a crime;

(b) protect an innocent person accused of a crime; and

(c) disclose hazards to public health.

(2) The medical examiner may perform an autopsy:

(a) to aid in the administration of civil justice in life and accident insurance problems in accordance with Title 34A, Chapter 2, Workers' Compensation Act;

(b) in other cases involving questions of civil liability.

Amended by Chapter 278, 2001 General Session

26-4-14. Certification of death by attending physician -- Deaths without medical attendance -- Cause of death uncertain -- Notice requirements.

The physician in attendance at the last illness of a deceased person who, in the judgment of the physician, does not appear to have died in a manner described in Section 26-4-7, shall certify the cause of death to his best knowledge and belief. When there is no physician in attendance during the last illness or when an attending physician is unable to determine with reasonable certainty the cause of death, the physician or person with custody of the body shall so notify the medical examiner. If the medical examiner has reason to believe there may be criminal responsibility for the death, he shall notify the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction

or the head of the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction to make further investigation of the death.

Amended by Chapter 38, 1993 General Session

26-4-15. Deaths in medical centers and federal facilities.

All death certificates of any decedent who died in a teaching medical center or a federal medical facility unattended or in the care of an unlicensed physician or other medical personnel shall be signed by the licensed supervisory physician, attending physician or licensed resident physician of the medical center or facility.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-4-16. Release of body for funeral preparations.

(1) (a) Where a body is held for investigation or autopsy under this chapter or for a medical investigation permitted by law, the body shall, if requested by the person given priority under Section 58-9-602, be released for funeral preparations no later than 24 hours after the arrival at the office of the medical examiner or regional medical facility.

(b) An extension may be ordered only by a district court.

(2) The right and duty to control the disposition of a deceased person is governed by Sections 58-9-601 through 58-9-606.

Amended by Chapter 144, 2007 General Session

26-4-17. Records of medical examiner -- Copies furnished to next-of-kin, law enforcement officers, and attending physician -- Confidentiality.

(1) The medical examiner shall keep and maintain full and complete original records, properly indexed, giving the name, if known, or otherwise identifying every person whose death is investigated, the place where the body was found, the date, the cause and manner of death, the occupation of the decedent if available, and all other relevant information concerning the death. A full report and detailed findings of the autopsy or report of the investigation shall be part of the record in each case.

(2) The county attorney, the district attorney, the attorney general, or other law enforcement official having jurisdiction may, upon written request, secure copies of the original records where necessary for the performance of their duties.

(3) The medical examiner shall promptly deliver copies of all reports, findings, and records gathered or compiled in the investigation of a death to the decedent's next-of-kin, legal representative, or physicians who attended the decedent during the year before death, upon their written request for the release of documents.

(4) The medical examiner shall maintain the confidentiality of the records which shall be released as provided herein and upon payment of fees prescribed by the department under Section 26-1-6.

Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-4-18. Records of medical examiner -- Admissibility as evidence -- Subpoena of person who prepared record.

The records of the medical examiner or transcripts thereof certified by the medical examiner are admissible as evidence in any civil action in any court in this state except that statements by witnesses or other persons, unless taken pursuant to Section 26-4-21, as conclusions upon extraneous matters are not hereby made admissible. The person who prepared a report or record offered in evidence hereunder may be subpoenaed as a witness in the case by any party.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-4-19. Personal property of deceased -- Disposition.

(1) Personal property of the deceased not held as evidence shall be turned over to the legal representative of the deceased within 30 days after completion of the investigation of the death of the deceased. If no legal representative is known, the county attorney, district attorney, or the medical examiner shall, within 30 days after the investigation, turn the personal property over to the county treasurer to be handled pursuant to the escheat laws.

(2) An affidavit shall be filed with the county treasurer by the county attorney, district attorney, or the medical examiner within 30 days after investigation of the death of the deceased showing the money or other property belonging to the estate of the deceased person which has come into his possession and the disposition made of the property.

(3) Property required to be turned over to the legal representative of the deceased may be held longer than 30 days if, in the opinion of the county attorney, district attorney, or attorney general, the property is necessary evidence in a court proceeding. Upon conclusion of the court proceedings, the personal property shall be turned over as described in this section and in accordance with the rules of the court.

Amended by Chapter 38, 1993 General Session

26-4-20. Officials not liable for authorized acts.

Except as provided in this chapter, a criminal or civil action may not arise against the county attorney, district attorney, or his deputies, the medical examiner or his deputies, or regional pathologists for authorizing or performing autopsies authorized by this chapter or for any other act authorized by this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-4-21. Authority of county attorney or district attorney to subpoena witnesses and compel testimony -- Determination if decedent died by unlawful means.

(1) The district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction may subpoena witnesses and compel testimony concerning the death of any person and have such testimony reduced to writing under his direction and may employ a shorthand reporter for that purpose at the same compensation as is allowed to

reporters in the district courts. When the testimony has been taken down by the shorthand reporter, a transcript thereof, duly certified, shall constitute the deposition of the witness.

(2) Upon review of all facts and testimony taken concerning the death of a person, the district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction shall determine if the decedent died by unlawful means and shall also determine if criminal prosecution shall be instituted.

Amended by Chapter 372, 1997 General Session

26-4-22. Additional powers and duties of department.

The department may:

(1) establish rules to carry out the provisions of this chapter;

(2) arrange for the state health laboratory to perform toxicologic analysis for public or private institutions and fix fees for the services;

(3) cooperate and train law enforcement personnel in the techniques of criminal investigation as related to medical and pathological matters; and

(4) pay to private parties, institutions or funeral directors the reasonable value of services performed for the medical examiner's office.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-4-23. Authority of examiner to provide organ or other tissue for transplant purposes.

(1) When requested by the licensed physician of a patient who is in need of an organ or other tissue for transplant purpose, by a legally created Utah eye bank, organ bank or medical facility, the medical examiner may provide an organ or other tissue if:

(a) a decedent who may provide a suitable organ or other tissue for the transplant is in the custody of the medical examiner;

(b) the medical examiner is assured that the requesting party has made reasonable search for and inquiry of next of kin of the decedent and that no objection by the next of kin is known by the requesting party; and

(c) the removal of the organ or other tissue will not interfere with the investigation or autopsy or alter the post-mortem facial appearance.

(2) When the medical examiner is in custody of a decedent who may provide a suitable organ or other tissue for transplant purposes, he may contact the appropriate eye bank, organ bank or medical facility and notify them concerning the suitability of the organ or other tissue. In such contact the medical examiner may disclose the name of the decedent so that necessary clearances can be obtained.

(3) No person shall be held civilly or criminally liable for any acts performed pursuant to this section.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-4-24. Autopsies -- Persons eligible to authorize.

(1) Autopsies may be authorized:

(a) by the commissioner of the Labor Commission or the commissioner's designee as provided in Section 34A-2-603;

(b) by individuals by will or other written document;

(c) upon a decedent by the next of kin in the following order and as known: surviving spouse, child, if 18 years or older, otherwise the legal guardian of the child, parent, sibling, uncle or aunt, nephew or niece, cousin, others charged by law with the duty of burial, or friend assuming the obligation of burial;

(d) by the county attorney, district attorney, or the district attorney's deputy, or a district judge; and

(e) by the medical examiner as provided in this chapter.

(2) Autopsies authorized under Subsections (1)(a) and (1)(d) shall be performed by a certified pathologist.

(3) No criminal or civil action arises against a pathologist or a physician who proceeds in good faith and performs an autopsy authorized by this section.

Amended by Chapter 375, 1997 General Session

26-4-25. Burial of unclaimed body -- Request by college of medicine.

Counties shall provide decent burial for a body found in the county which is unclaimed, unless it is requested by the college of medicine of the University of Utah and the burial requirement in Subsection 26-4-27(2) does not apply because the identity of the body is known. Services rendered by a funeral director shall be paid for by the county.

Amended by Chapter 153, 1998 General Session

26-4-26. Social security number in certification of death.

A certification of death shall include, if known, the social security number of the deceased person, and a copy of the certification shall be sent to the Office of Recovery Services within the Department of Human Services upon request.

Enacted by Chapter 232, 1997 General Session

26-4-27. Registry of unidentified deceased persons.

(1) If the identity of a deceased person over which the medical examiner has jurisdiction under Section 26-4-7 is unknown, the medical examiner shall do the following before releasing the body to the county in which the body was found as provided in Section 26-4-25:

(a) assign a unique identifying number to the body;

(b) create and maintain a file under the assigned number;

(c) examine the body, take samples, and perform other related tasks for the purpose of deriving information that may be useful in ascertaining the identity of the deceased person;

(d) use the identifying number in all records created by the medical examiner that pertains to the body;

(e) record all information pertaining to the body in the file created and

maintained under Subsection (1)(b);

(f) communicate the unique identifying number to the county in which the body was found; and

(g) access information from available government sources and databases in an attempt to ascertain the identity of the deceased person.

(2) A county which has received a body to which Subsection (1) applies:

(a) shall adopt and use the same identifying number assigned by Subsection (1) in all records created by the county that pertain to the body;

(b) require any funeral director or sexton who is involved in the disposition of the body to adopt and use the same identifying number assigned by Subsection (1) in all records created by the funeral director or sexton pertaining to the body; and

(c) shall provide a decent burial for the body.

(3) Within 30 days of receiving a body to which Subsection (1) applies, the county shall inform the medical examiner of the disposition of the body including the burial plot. The medical examiner shall record this information in the file created and maintained under Subsection (1)(b).

(4) The requirements of Subsections (1) and (6) apply to a county examiner appointed under Section 26-4-5, with the additional requirements that the county examiner:

(a) obtain a unique identifying number from the medical examiner for the body; and

(b) send to the medical examiner a copy of the file created and maintained in accordance with Subsection (1)(b), including the disposition of the body and burial plot, within 30 days of releasing the body.

(5) The medical examiner shall maintain a file received under Subsection (4) in the same way that it maintains a file created and maintained by the medical examiner in accordance with Subsection (1)(b).

(6) The medical examiner shall cooperate and share information generated and maintained under this section with a person who demonstrates:

(a) a legitimate personal or governmental interest in determining the identity of a deceased person; and

(b) a reasonable belief that the body of that deceased person may have come into the custody of the medical examiner.

Enacted by Chapter 153, 1998 General Session

26-4-28. Testing for suspected suicides -- Maintaining information -- Compensation to deputy medical examiners.

(1) In all cases where it is suspected that a death resulted from suicide, including assisted suicide, the medical examiner shall endeavor to have the following tests conducted upon samples taken from the body of the deceased:

(a) a test that detects all of the substances included in the volatiles panel of the Bureau of Forensic Toxicology within the Department of Health;

(b) a test that detects all of the substances included in the drugs of abuse panel of the Bureau of Forensic Toxicology within the Department of Health; and

(c) a test that detects all of the substances included in the prescription drug

panel of the Bureau of Forensic Toxicology within the Department of Health.

(2) The medical examiner shall maintain information regarding the types of substances found present in the samples taken from the body of a person who is suspected to have died as a result of suicide or assisted suicide.

(3) Within funds appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose, the medical examiner shall provide compensation, at a standard rate determined by the medical examiner, to a deputy medical examiner who collects samples for the purposes described in Subsection (1).

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-4-29. Application for permit to render a dead body unavailable for postmortem examination -- Fees.

(1) Upon receiving an application by a person for a permit to render a dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation, the medical examiner shall review the application to determine whether:

(a) the person is authorized by law to render the dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation in the manner specified in the application; and

(b) there is a need to delay any action that will render the dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation until a postmortem investigation or an autopsy of the dead body is performed by the medical examiner.

(2) Except as provided in Subsection (4), within three days after receiving an application described in Subsection (1), the medical examiner shall:

(a) make the determinations described in Subsection (1); and

(b) (i) issue a permit to render the dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation in the manner specified in the application; or

(ii) deny the permit.

(3) The medical examiner may deny a permit to render a dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation only if:

(a) the applicant is not authorized by law to render the dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation in the manner specified in the application;

(b) the medical examiner determines that there is a need to delay any action that will render the dead body unavailable for postmortem investigation; or

(c) the applicant fails to pay the fee described in Subsection (5).

(4) If the medical examiner cannot in good faith make the determinations described in Subsection (1) within three days after receiving an application described in Subsection (1), the medical examiner shall notify the applicant:

(a) that more time is needed to make the determinations described in Subsection (1); and

(b) of the estimated amount of time needed before the determinations described in Subsection (1) can be made.

(5) The medical examiner may charge a fee, pursuant to Section 63J-1-504, to recover the costs of fulfilling the duties of the medical examiner described in this section.

Amended by Chapter 218, 2010 General Session

26-5-1. "Chronic disease" defined.

As used in this chapter, "chronic disease" means an impairment or deviation from the normal functioning of the human body having one or more of the following characteristics:

(1) It is permanent;
(2) It leaves residual disability;
(3) It is caused by nonreversible pathological alterations;
(4) It requires special patient education and instruction for rehabilitation;
(5) It may require a long period of supervision, observation and care.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-5-2. Establishment of prevention programs by department.

The department shall establish and operate reasonable programs to prevent, delay, and detect the onset of chronic diseases including cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases, genetic diseases, and such other chronic diseases as the department determines are important in promoting, protecting, and maintaining the public's health.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-5-3. System for detecting and monitoring diseases established by department.

(1) The department shall develop and maintain a system for detecting and monitoring chronic diseases within the state and shall investigate and determine the epidemiology of those conditions which contributed to preventable and premature sickness, or both, and to death and disability.

(2) Beginning July 1, 2004, the department shall consider the disease known as "lupus" a chronic disease subject to the detection and monitoring provisions of Subsection (1).

Amended by Chapter 197, 2004 General Session

26-5-4. Programs of community and professional education established by department.

The department shall establish programs of community and professional education relevant to the detection, prevention and control of chronic diseases.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-1. Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Utah Communicable Disease Control Act."

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Ambulatory surgical center" is as defined in Section 26-21-2.

(2) "Carrier" means an infected individual or animal who harbors a specific infectious agent in the absence of discernible clinical disease and serves as a potential source of infection for man. The carrier state may occur in an individual with an infection that is inapparent throughout its course, commonly known as healthy or asymptomatic carrier, or during the incubation period, convalescence, and postconvalescence of an individual with a clinically recognizable disease, commonly known as incubatory carrier or convalescent carrier. Under either circumstance the carrier state may be of short duration, as a temporary or transient carrier, or long duration, as a chronic carrier.

(3) "Communicable disease" means illness due to a specific infectious agent or its toxic products which arises through transmission of that agent or its products from a reservoir to a susceptible host, either directly, as from an infected individual or animal, or indirectly, through an intermediate plant or animal host, vector, or the inanimate environment.

(4) "Communicable period" means the time or times during which an infectious agent may be transferred directly or indirectly from an infected individual to another individual, from an infected animal to man, or from an infected man to an animal, including arthropods.

(5) "Contact" means an individual or animal having had association with an infected individual, animal, or contaminated environment so as to have had an opportunity to acquire the infection.

(6) "End stage renal disease facility" is as defined in Section 26-21-2.

(7) "Epidemic" means the occurrence or outbreak in a community or region of cases of an illness clearly in excess of normal expectancy and derived from a common or propagated source. The number of cases indicating an epidemic will vary according to the infectious agent, size, and type of population exposed, previous experience or lack of exposure to the disease, and time and place of occurrence. Epidemicity is considered to be relative to usual frequency of the disease in the same area, among the specified population, at the same season of the year.

(8) "General acute hospital" is as defined in Section 26-21-2.

(9) "Incubation period" means the time interval between exposure to an infectious agent and appearance of the first sign or symptom of the disease in question.

(10) "Infected individual" means an individual who harbors an infectious agent and who has manifest disease or inapparent infection. An infected individual is one from whom the infectious agent can be naturally acquired.

(11) "Infection" means the entry and development or multiplication of an infectious agent in the body of man or animals. Infection is not synonymous with infectious disease; the result may be inapparent or manifest. The presence of living infectious agents on exterior surfaces of the body, or upon articles of apparel or soiled articles, is not infection, but contamination of such surfaces and articles.

(12) "Infectious agent" means an organism such as a virus, rickettsia, bacteria, fungus, protozoan, or helminth that is capable of producing infection or infectious disease.

(13) "Infectious disease" means a disease of man or animals resulting from an infection.

(14) "Isolation" means the separation, for the period of communicability, of infected individuals or animals from others, in such places and under such conditions as to prevent the direct or indirect conveyance of the infectious agent from those infected to those who are susceptible or who may spread the agent to others.

(15) "Quarantine" means the restriction of the activities of well individuals or animals who have been exposed to a communicable disease during its period of communicability to prevent disease transmission.

(16) "School" means a public, private, or parochial nursery school, licensed or unlicensed day care center, child care facility, family care home, headstart program, kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school through grade 12.

(17) "Sexually transmitted disease" means those diseases transmitted through sexual intercourse or any other sexual contact.

(18) "Specialty hospital" is as defined in Section 26-21- 2.

Amended by Chapter 150, 2012 General Session

26-6-3. Authority to investigate and control epidemic infections and communicable disease.

(1) The department has authority to investigate and control the causes of epidemic infections and communicable disease, and shall provide for the detection, reporting, prevention, and control of communicable diseases and epidemic infections or any other health hazard which may affect the public health.

(2) (a) As part of the requirements of Subsection (1), the department shall distribute to the public and to health care professionals:

(i) medically accurate information about sexually transmitted diseases that may cause infertility and sterility if left untreated, including descriptions of:

(A) the probable side effects resulting from an untreated sexually transmitted disease, including infertility and sterility;

(B) medically accepted treatment for sexually transmitted diseases;

(C) the medical risks commonly associated with the medical treatment of sexually transmitted diseases; and

(D) suggest screening by a private physician; and

(ii) information about:

(A) public services and agencies available to assist individuals with obtaining treatment for the sexually transmitted disease;

(B) medical assistance benefits that may be available to the individual with the sexually transmitted disease; and

(C) abstinence before marriage and fidelity after marriage being the surest prevention of sexually transmitted disease.

(b) The information required by Subsection (2)(a):

(i) shall be distributed by the department and by local health departments free of charge;

(ii) shall be relevant to the geographic location in which the information is distributed by:

(A) listing addresses and telephone numbers for public clinics and agencies providing services in the geographic area in which the information is distributed; and

(B) providing the information in English as well as other languages that may be appropriate for the geographic area.

(c) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(c)(ii), the department shall develop written material that includes the information required by this Subsection (2).

(ii) In addition to the written materials required by Subsection (2)(c)(i), the department may distribute the information required by this Subsection (2) by any other methods the department determines is appropriate to educate the public, excluding public schools, including websites, toll free telephone numbers, and the media.

(iii) If the information required by Subsection (2)(b)(ii)(A) is not included in the written pamphlet developed by the department, the written material shall include either a website, or a 24-hour toll free telephone number that the public may use to obtain that information.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-6-3.5. Reporting AIDS and HIV infection -- Anonymous testing.

(1) Because of the nature and consequences of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome and Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection, the department shall:

(a) require reporting of those conditions; and

(b) utilize contact tracing and other methods for "partner" identification and notification. The department shall, by rule, define individuals who are considered "partners" for purposes of this section.

(2) (a) The requirements of Subsection (1) do not apply to seroprevalence and other epidemiological studies conducted by the department.

(b) The requirements of Subsection (1) do not apply to, and anonymity shall be provided in, research studies conducted by universities or hospitals, under the authority of institutional review boards if those studies are funded in whole or in part by research grants and if anonymity is required in order to obtain the research grant or to carry out the research.

(3) For all purposes of this chapter, Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome and Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection are considered communicable and infectious diseases.

(4) The department may establish or allow one site or agency within the state to provide anonymous testing.

(a) The site or agency that provides anonymous testing shall maintain accurate records regarding:

(i) the number of HIV positive individuals that it is able to contact or inform of their condition;

(ii) the number of HIV positive individuals who receive extensive counseling;

(iii) how many HIV positive individuals provide verifiable information for partner notification; and

(iv) how many cases in which partner notification is carried through.

(b) If the information maintained under Subsection (4)(a) indicates anonymous testing is not resulting in partner notification, the department shall phase out the

anonymous testing program allowed by this Subsection (4).

Amended by Chapter 116, 2006 General Session

26-6-4. Involuntary examination, treatment, isolation, and quarantine.

(1) The following individuals or groups of individuals are subject to examination, treatment, quarantine, or isolation under a department order of restriction:

(a) an individual who is infected or suspected to be infected with a communicable disease that poses a threat to the public health and who does not take action as required by the department or the local health department to prevent spread of the disease;

(b) an individual who is contaminated or suspected to be contaminated with an infectious agent that poses a threat to the public health and that could be spread to others if remedial action is not taken;

(c) an individual who is in a condition or suspected condition which, if exposed to others, poses a threat to public health, or is in a condition which if treatment is not completed will pose a threat to public health; and

(d) an individual who is contaminated or suspected to be contaminated with a chemical or biological agent that poses a threat to the public health and that could be spread to others if remedial action is not taken.

(2) If an individual refuses to take action as required by the department or the local health department to prevent the spread of a communicable disease, infectious agent, or contamination, the department or the local health department may order involuntary examination, treatment, quarantine, or isolation of the individual and may petition the district court to order involuntary examination, treatment, quarantine, or isolation in accordance with Title 26, Chapter 6b, Communicable Diseases - Treatment, Isolation, and Quarantine Procedures.

Amended by Chapter 185, 2006 General Session

26-6-5. Willful introduction of communicable disease a misdemeanor.

Any person who willfully or knowingly introduces any communicable or infectious disease into any county, municipality, or community is guilty of a class A misdemeanor, except as provided in Section 76-10-1309.

Amended by Chapter 179, 1993 General Session

26-6-6. Duty to report individual suspected of having communicable disease.

The following shall report to the department or the local health department regarding any individual suffering from or suspected of having a disease that is communicable, as required by department rule:

(1) health care providers as defined in Section 78B-3-403;

(2) facilities licensed under Title 26, Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensure and Inspection Act;

(3) health care facilities operated by the federal government;

(4) mental health facilities;
(5) care facilities licensed by the Department of Human Services;
(6) nursing homes and other care facilities;
(7) dispensaries, clinics, or laboratories that diagnose, test, or otherwise care for individuals who are suffering from a disease suspected of being communicable;
(8) individuals who have knowledge of others who have a communicable disease;
(9) individuals in charge of schools having responsibility for any individuals who have a disease suspected of being communicable; and
(10) child care programs, as defined in Section 26-39-102.

Amended by Chapter 3, 2008 General Session

26-6-7. Designation of communicable diseases by department -- Establishment of rules for detection, reporting, investigation, prevention, and control.

The department may designate those diseases which are communicable, of concern to the public health, and reportable; and establish rules for the detection, reporting, investigation, prevention, and control of communicable diseases, epidemic infections, and other health hazards that affect the public health.

Amended by Chapter 211, 1996 General Session

26-6-8. Tuberculosis -- Duty of department to investigate, control, and monitor.

(1) The department shall conduct or oversee the investigation, control, and monitoring of suspected or confirmed tuberculosis infection and disease within the state. Local health departments shall investigate, control, and monitor suspected or confirmed tuberculosis infection and disease within their respective jurisdictions.
(2) A health care provider who treats an individual with suspected or confirmed tuberculosis shall treat the individual according to guidelines established by the department.

Amended by Chapter 211, 1996 General Session

26-6-9. Tuberculosis -- Testing of high risk individuals.

Individuals at high risk for tuberculosis shall be tested as required by department rule. The department rule:
(1) shall establish criteria to identify individuals who are at high risk for tuberculosis; and
(2) may establish who is responsible for the costs of the testing.

Repealed and Re-enacted by Chapter 211, 1996 General Session

26-6-11. Rabies or other animal disease -- Investigation and order of quarantine.

Whenever rabies or any other animal disease dangerous to the health of human beings is reported, the department shall investigate to determine whether such disease exists, and the probable area of the state in which man or beast is thereby endangered. If the department finds that such disease exists, a quarantine may be declared against all animals designated in the quarantine order and within the area specified in the order. If the quarantine is for the purpose of preventing the spread of rabies or hydrophobia, the order shall contain a warning to the owners of dogs within the quarantined area to confine or muzzle all dogs to prevent biting. Any dog not muzzled found running at large in a quarantined area or any dog known to have been removed from or escaped from such area, may be killed by any person without liability therefor.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-12. Rabies or other animal disease -- Investigation following order of quarantine.

Following the order of quarantine the department shall make a thorough investigation as to the extent of the disease, the probable number of persons and beasts exposed, and the area involved.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-13. Rabies or other animal disease -- Authority of peace officer to kill or capture animals.

During the period any quarantine order is in force all peace officers may kill or capture and hold for further action by the department all animals in a quarantined area not held in restraint on private premises.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-14. Rabies or other animal disease -- Quarantine defined.

Quarantine for the purposes of Sections 26-6-11 through 26-6-13 means strict confinement upon the private premises of the owners, under restraint by leash, closed cage or paddock of all animals specified by the order.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-15. Rabies or other animal disease -- Possession of animal in violation of chapter a misdemeanor.

Any person in possession of any animal being held in violation of this chapter is guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-16. Venereal diseases declared dangerous to public health.

Syphilis, gonorrhea, lymphogranuloma inguinale (venereum) and chancroid are hereby declared to be contagious, infectious, communicable and dangerous to the

public health.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-17. Venereal disease -- Examinations by authorities -- Treatment of infected persons.

State, county, and municipal health officers within their respective jurisdictions may make examinations of persons reasonably suspected of being infected with venereal disease. Persons infected with venereal disease shall be required to report for treatment to either a reputable physician and continue treatment until cured or to submit to treatment provided at public expense until cured.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-18. Venereal disease -- Consent of minor to treatment.

(1) A consent to medical care or services by a hospital or public clinic or the performance of medical care or services by a licensed physician executed by a minor who is or professes to be afflicted with a sexually transmitted disease, shall have the same legal effect upon the minor and the same legal obligations with regard to the giving of consent as a consent given by a person of full legal age and capacity, the infancy of the minor and any contrary provision of law notwithstanding.

(2) The consent of the minor is not subject to later disaffirmance by reason of minority at the time it was given and the consent of no other person or persons shall be necessary to authorize hospital or clinical care or services to be provided to the minor by a licensed physician.

(3) The provisions of this section shall apply also to minors who profess to be in need of hospital or clinical care and services or medical care or services provided by a physician for suspected sexually transmitted disease, regardless of whether such professed suspicions are subsequently substantiated on a medical basis.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-6-19. Venereal disease -- Examination and treatment of persons in prison or jail.

(1) All persons confined in any state, county, or city prison or jail shall be examined, and if infected, treated for venereal diseases by the health authorities. The prison authorities of every state, county, or city prison or jail shall make available to the health authorities such portion of the prison or jail as may be necessary for a clinic or hospital wherein all persons suffering with venereal disease at the time of the expiration of their terms of imprisonment, shall be isolated and treated at public expense until cured.

(2) The department may require persons suffering with venereal disease at the time of the expiration of their terms of imprisonment to report for treatment to a licensed physician or submit to treatment provided at public expense in lieu of isolation. Nothing in this section shall interfere with the service of any sentence imposed by a court as a punishment for the commission of crime.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-6-20. Serological testing of pregnant or recently delivered women.

(1) Every licensed physician and surgeon attending a pregnant or recently delivered woman for conditions relating to her pregnancy shall take or cause to be taken a sample of blood of the woman at the time of first examination or within 10 days thereafter. The blood sample shall be submitted to an approved laboratory for a standard serological test for syphilis. The provisions of this section do not apply to any female who objects thereto on the grounds that she is a bona fide member of a specified, well recognized religious organization whose teachings are contrary to the tests.

(2) Every other person attending a pregnant or recently delivered woman, who is not permitted by law to take blood samples, shall within 10 days from the time of first attendance cause a sample of blood to be taken by a licensed physician. The blood sample shall be submitted to an approved laboratory for a standard serological test for syphilis.

(3) An approved laboratory is a laboratory approved by the department according to its rules governing the approval of laboratories for the purpose of this title. In submitting the sample to the laboratory the physician shall designate whether it is a prenatal test or a test following recent delivery.

(4) For the purpose of this chapter, a "standard serological test" means a test for syphilis approved by the department and made at an approved laboratory.

(5) The laboratory shall transmit a detailed report of the standard serological test, showing the result thereof to the physician.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-6-27. Information regarding communicable or reportable diseases confidentiality -- Exceptions.

(1) Information collected pursuant to this chapter in the possession of the department or local health departments relating to an individual who has or is suspected of having a disease designated by the department as a communicable or reportable disease under this chapter shall be held by the department and local health departments as strictly confidential. The department and local health departments may not release or make public that information upon subpoena, search warrant, discovery proceedings, or otherwise, except as provided by this section.

(2) The information described in Subsection (1) may be released by the department or local health departments only in accordance with the requirements of this chapter and as follows:

(a) specific medical or epidemiological information may be released with the written consent of the individual identified in that information or, if that individual is deceased, his next-of-kin;

(b) specific medical or epidemiological information may be released to medical personnel or peace officers in a medical emergency, as determined by the department in accordance with guidelines it has established, only to the extent necessary to protect

the health or life of the individual identified in the information, or of the attending medical personnel or law enforcement or public safety officers;

(c) specific medical or epidemiological information may be released to authorized personnel within the department, local health departments, public health authorities, official health agencies in other states, the United States Public Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or when necessary to continue patient services or to undertake public health efforts to interrupt the transmission of disease;

(d) if the individual identified in the information is under the age of 18, the information may be released to the Division of Child and Family Services within the Department of Human Services in accordance with Section 62A-4a-403. If that information is required in a court proceeding involving child abuse or sexual abuse under Title 76, Chapter 5, Offenses Against the Person, the information shall be disclosed in camera and sealed by the court upon conclusion of the proceedings;

(e) specific medical or epidemiological information may be released to authorized personnel in the department or in local health departments, and to the courts, to carry out the provisions of this title, and rules adopted by the department in accordance with this title;

(f) specific medical or epidemiological information may be released to blood banks, organ and tissue banks, and similar institutions for the purpose of identifying individuals with communicable diseases. The department may, by rule, designate the diseases about which information may be disclosed under this subsection, and may choose to release the name of an infected individual to those organizations without disclosing the specific disease;

(g) specific medical or epidemiological information may be released in such a way that no individual is identifiable;

(h) specific medical or epidemiological information may be released to a "health care provider" as defined in Section 78B-3-403, health care personnel, and public health personnel who have a legitimate need to have access to the information in order to assist the patient, or to protect the health of others closely associated with the patient;

(i) specific medical or epidemiological information regarding a health care provider, as defined in Section 78B-3-403, may be released to the department, the appropriate local health department, and the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing within the Department of Commerce, if the identified health care provider is endangering the safety or life of any individual by his continued practice of health care; and

(j) specific medical or epidemiological information may be released in accordance with Section 26-6-31 if an individual is not identifiable.

(3) The provisions of Subsection (2)(h) do not create a duty to warn third parties, but is intended only to aid health care providers in their treatment and containment of infectious disease.

Amended by Chapter 150, 2012 General Session
Amended by Chapter 391, 2012 General Session

26-6-28. Protection from examination in legal proceedings -- Exceptions.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), an officer or employee of the department or of a local health department may not be examined in a legal proceeding of any kind or character as to the existence or content of information retained pursuant to this chapter or obtained as a result of an investigation conducted pursuant to this chapter, without the written consent of the individual who is identified in the information or, if that individual is deceased, the consent of his next-of-kin.

(2) This section does not restrict testimony and evidence provided by an employee or officer of the department or a local health department about:

(a) persons who are under restrictive actions taken by the department in accordance with Subsection 26-6-27(2)(e); or

(b) individuals or groups of individuals subject to examination, treatment, isolation, and quarantine actions under Chapter 6b, Communicable Diseases - Treatment, Isolation, and Quarantine Procedures.

Amended by Chapter 38, 2007 General Session

26-6-29. Violation -- Penalty.

(1) Any individual or entity entitled to receive confidential information from the Department of Health or a local health department under this chapter, other than the individual identified in that information, who violates this chapter by releasing or making public confidential information, or by otherwise breaching the confidentiality requirements of this chapter, is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

(2) This chapter does not apply to any individual or entity that holds or receives information relating to an individual who has or is suspected of having a disease designated by the department as a communicable or reportable disease under this chapter, if that individual or entity has obtained the information from a source other than the department or a local health department.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-6-30. Exclusions from confidentiality requirements.

(1) The provisions of this chapter do not apply to:

(a) information that relates to an individual who is in the custody of the Department of Corrections, a county jail, or the Division of Juvenile Justice Services within the Department of Human Services;

(b) information that relates to an individual who has been in the custody of the Department of Corrections, a county jail, or the Division of Juvenile Justice Services within the Department of Human Services, if liability of either of those departments, a county, or a division, or of an employee of a department, division, or county, is alleged by that individual in a lawsuit concerning transmission of an infectious or communicable disease; or

(c) any information relating to an individual who willfully or maliciously or with reckless disregard for the welfare of others transmits a communicable or infectious disease.

(2) Nothing in this chapter limits the right of the individual identified in the

information described in Subsection 26-6-27(1) to disclose that information.

Amended by Chapter 171, 2003 General Session

26-6-31. Public reporting of health care associated infections.

(1) An ambulatory surgical facility, a general acute hospital, a specialty hospital, an end stage renal disease facility, and other facilities as required by rules of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services shall give the department access to the facility's data on the incidence and rate of health care associated infections that the facility submits to the National Healthcare Safety Network in the Center for Disease Control pursuant to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services rules for infection reporting. Access to data under this Subsection (1) may include data sharing through the National Healthcare Safety Network.

(2) (a) The department shall, beginning May 1, 2013, use the data submitted by the facilities in accordance with Subsection (1) to compile an annual report on health care associated infections in ambulatory surgical facilities, general acute hospitals, and specialty hospitals for public distribution in accordance with the requirements of this subsection. The department shall publish the report on the department's website and the Utah Health Exchange.

(b) The department's report under this section shall:

(i) include the following health care associated infections as required by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and protocols adopted by the National Healthcare Safety Network in the Center for Disease Control:

(A) central line associated bloodstream infections;

(B) catheter associated urinary tract infections;

(C) surgical site infections from procedures on the colon or an abdominal hysterectomy;

(D) methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus bacteremia;

(E) clostridium difficile of the colon; and

(F) other health care associated infections when reporting is required by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and protocols adopted by the National Healthcare Safety Network in the Center for Disease Control;

(ii) include data on the rate of health care associated infections:

(A) for the infection types described in Subsection (2)(b)(i); and

(B) by health care facility or hospital;

(iii) include data on how the rate of health care associated infections in ambulatory surgical facilities, general acute hospitals, and specialty hospitals compares with the rates in other states;

(iv) in compiling the report described in Subsection (2)(a), use analytical methodologies that meet accepted standards of validity and reliability;

(v) clearly identify and acknowledge, in the report, the limitations of the data sources and analytic methodologies used to develop comparative facility or hospital information;

(vi) decide whether information supplied by a facility or hospital under Subsection (1) is appropriate to include in the report;

(vii) adjust comparisons among facilities and hospitals for patient case mix and

other relevant factors, when appropriate; and

(viii) control for provider peer groups, when appropriate.

(3) Before posting or releasing the report described in Subsection (2)(a), the department shall:

(a) disclose to each ambulatory surgical facility, general acute hospital, and specialty hospital whose data is included in the report:

(i) the entire methodology for analyzing the data; and

(ii) the comparative facility or hospital information and other information the department has compiled for the facility or hospital; and

(b) give the facility or hospital 30 days to suggest corrections or add explanatory comments about the data.

(4) The department shall develop and implement effective safeguards to protect against the unauthorized use or disclosure of ambulatory surgical facility, general acute hospital, and specialty hospital data, including the dissemination of inconsistent, incomplete, invalid, inaccurate, or subjective data.

(5) The report described in Subsection (2)(a):

(a) may include data that compare and identify general acute hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and specialty hospitals;

(b) shall contain only statistical, non-identifying information and may not disclose the identity of:

(i) an employee of an ambulatory surgical facility, a general acute hospital, or a specialty hospital;

(ii) a patient; or

(iii) a health care provider licensed under Title 58, Occupations and Professions; and

(c) may not be used as evidence in a criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding.

(6) This section does not limit the department's authority to investigate and collect data regarding infections and communicable diseases under other provisions of state or federal law.

Enacted by Chapter 150, 2012 General Session

26-6b-1. Applicability of chapter -- Administrative procedures.

(1) This chapter applies to involuntary examination, treatment, isolation, and quarantine actions applied to individuals or groups of individuals by the department or a local health department.

(2) The provisions of this chapter supersede the provisions of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

(3) The Department of Health may adopt rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, as necessary to administer the provisions of this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-6b-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the Department of Health or a local health department as defined in Section 26A-1-102.

(2) "First responder" means:

(a) a law enforcement officer as defined in Section 53-13-103;

(b) emergency medical service personnel as defined in Section 26-8a-102;

(c) firefighters; and

(d) public health personnel having jurisdiction over the location where an individual subject to restriction is found.

(3) "Order of restriction" means an order issued by a department or a district court which requires an individual or group of individuals who are subject to restriction to submit to an examination, treatment, isolation, or quarantine.

(4) "Public health official" means:

(a) the executive director of the Department of Health, or the executive director's authorized representative; or

(b) the executive director of a local health department as defined in Section 26A-1-102, or the executive director's authorized representative.

(5) "Subject to restriction" as applied to an individual, or a group of individuals, means the individual or group of individuals is:

(a) infected or suspected to be infected with a communicable disease that poses a threat to the public health and who does not take action as required by the department to prevent spread of the disease;

(b) contaminated or suspected to be contaminated with an infectious agent that poses a threat to the public health, and that could be spread to others if remedial action is not taken;

(c) in a condition or suspected condition which, if the individual is exposed to others, poses a threat to public health, or is in a condition which if treatment is not completed the individual will pose a threat to public health; or

(d) contaminated or suspected to be contaminated with a chemical or biological agent that poses a threat to the public health and that could be spread to others if remedial action is not taken.

Amended by Chapter 185, 2006 General Session

26-6b-3. Order of restriction.

(1) The department having jurisdiction over the location where an individual or a group of individuals who are subject to restriction are found may:

(a) issue a written order of restriction for the individual or group of individuals pursuant to Subsection 26-1-30(2) or 26A-1-114(1)(b) upon compliance with the requirements of this chapter; and

(b) issue a verbal order of restriction for an individual or group of individuals pursuant to Subsection (2)(c).

(2) (a) A department's determination to issue an order of restriction shall be based upon the totality of circumstances reported to and known by the department, including:

(i) observation;

(ii) information that the department determines is credible and reliable information; and

(iii) knowledge of current public health risks based on medically accepted guidelines as may be established by the Department of Health by administrative rule.

(b) An order of restriction issued by a department shall:

(i) in the opinion of the public health official, be for the shortest reasonable period of time necessary to protect the public health;

(ii) use the least intrusive method of restriction that, in the opinion of the department, is reasonable based on the totality of circumstances known to the health department issuing the order of restriction;

(iii) be in writing unless the provisions of Subsection (2)(c) apply; and

(iv) contain notice of an individual's rights as required in Section 26-6b-3.3.

(c) (i) A department may issue a verbal order of restriction, without prior notice to the individual or group of individuals if the delay in imposing a written order of restriction would significantly jeopardize the department's ability to prevent or limit:

(A) the transmission of a communicable or possibly communicable disease that poses a threat to public health;

(B) the transmission of an infectious agent or possibly infectious agent that poses a threat to public health;

(C) the exposure or possible exposure of a chemical or biological agent that poses a threat to public health; or

(D) the exposure or transmission of a condition that poses a threat to public health.

(ii) A verbal order of restriction issued under the provisions of Subsection (2)(c)(i):

(A) is valid for 24 hours from the time the order of restriction is issued;

(B) may be verbally communicated to the individuals or group of individuals subject to restriction by a first responder;

(C) may be enforced by the first responder until the department is able to establish and maintain the place of restriction; and

(D) may only be continued beyond the initial 24 hours if a written order of restriction is issued pursuant to the provisions of Section 26-6b-3.3.

(3) Pending issuance of a written order of restriction under Section 26-6b-3.3, or judicial review of an order of restriction by the district court pursuant to Section 26-6b-6, an individual who is subject to the order of restriction may be required to submit to involuntary examination, quarantine, isolation, or treatment in the individual's home, a hospital, or any other suitable facility under reasonable conditions prescribed by the department.

(4) The department that issued the order of restriction shall take reasonable measures, including the provision of medical care, as may be necessary to assure proper care related to the reason for the involuntary examination, treatment, isolation, or quarantine of an individual ordered to submit to an order of restriction.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-6b-3.1. Consent to order of restriction -- Periodic review.

(1) (a) The department shall either seek judicial review of an order of restriction under Sections 26-6b-4 through 26-6b-6, or obtain the consent of an individual subject to an order of restriction.

(b) If the department obtains consent, the consent shall be in writing and shall inform the individual or group of individuals:

(i) of the terms and duration of the order of restriction;

(ii) of the importance of complying with the order of restriction to protect the public's health;

(iii) that each individual has the right to agree to the order of restriction, or refuse to agree to the order of restriction and seek a judicial review of the order of restriction;

(iv) that for any individual who consents to the order of restriction:

(A) the order of restriction will not be reviewed by the district court unless the individual withdraws consent to the order of restriction in accordance with Subsection (1)(b)(iv)(B); and

(B) the individual shall notify the department in writing, with at least five business day's notice, if the individual intends to withdraw consent to the order of restriction; and

(v) that a breach of a consent agreement prior to the end of the order of restriction may subject the individual to an involuntary order of restriction under Section 26-6b-3.2.

(2) (a) The department responsible for the care of an individual who has consented to the order of restriction shall periodically reexamine the reasons upon which the order of restriction was based. This reexamination shall occur at least once every six months.

(b) (i) If at any time, the department determines that the conditions justifying the order of restriction for either a group or an individual no longer exist, the department shall immediately discharge the individual or group from the order of restriction.

(ii) If the department determines that the conditions justifying the order of restriction continue to exist, the department shall send to the individual a written notice of:

(A) the department's findings, the expected duration of the order of restriction, and the reason for the decision; and

(B) the individual's right to a judicial review of the order of restriction by the district court if requested by the individual.

(iii) Upon request for judicial review by an individual, the department shall:

(A) file a petition in district court within five business days after the individual's request for a judicial review; and

(B) proceed under Sections 26-6b-4 through 26-6b-6.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-6b-3.2. Involuntary order of restriction -- Notice -- Effect of order during judicial review.

(1) If the department cannot obtain consent to the order of restriction from an individual, or if an individual withdraws consent to an order under Subsection 26-6b-3.1(1)(b)(iv)(B), the department shall:

(a) give the individual or group of individuals subject to the order of restriction a

written notice of:

(i) the order of restriction and any supporting documentation; and

(ii) the individual's right to a judicial review of the order of restriction; and

(b) file a petition for a judicial review of the order of restriction under Section 26-6b-4 in district court within:

(i) five business days after issuing the written notice of the order of restriction; or

(ii) if consent has been withdrawn under Subsection 26-6b-3.1(1)(b)(iv)(B), within five business days after receiving notice of the individual's withdrawal of consent.

(2) (a) An order of restriction remains in effect during any judicial proceedings to review the order of restriction if the department files a petition for judicial review of the order of restriction with the district within the period of time required by this section.

(b) Law enforcement officers with jurisdiction in the area where the individual who is subject to the order of restriction can be located shall assist the department with enforcing the order of restriction.

Enacted by Chapter 185, 2006 General Session

26-6b-3.3. Contents of notice of order of restriction -- Rights of individuals.

(1) A written order of restriction issued by a department shall include the following information:

(a) the identity of the individual or a description of the group of individuals subject to the order of restriction;

(b) the identity or location of any premises that may be subject to restriction;

(c) the date and time for which the restriction begins and the expected duration of the restriction;

(d) the suspected communicable disease, infectious, chemical or biological agent, or other condition that poses a threat to public health;

(e) the requirements for termination of the order of restriction, such as necessary laboratory reports, the expiration of an incubation period, or the completion of treatment for the communicable disease;

(f) any conditions on the restriction, such as limitation of visitors or requirements for medical monitoring;

(g) the medical or scientific information upon which the restriction is based;

(h) a statement advising of the right to a judicial review of the order of restriction by the district court; and

(i) pursuant to Subsection (2), the rights of each individual subject to restriction.

(2) An individual subject to restriction has the following rights:

(a) the right to be represented by legal counsel in any judicial review of the order of restriction in accordance with Subsection 26-6b-4(3);

(b) the right to be provided with prior notice of the date, time, and location of any hearing concerning the order of restriction;

(c) the right to participate in any hearing, in a manner established by the court based on precautions necessary to prevent additional exposure to communicable or possibly communicable diseases or to protect the public health;

(d) the right to respond and present evidence and arguments on the individual's

own behalf in any hearing;

(e) the right to cross examine witnesses; and

(f) the right to review and copy all records in the possession of the department that issued the order of restriction which relate to the subject of the written order of restriction.

(3) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (1), if a department issues an order of restriction for a group of individuals, the department may modify the method of providing notice to the group or modify the information contained in the notice, if the public health official determines the modification of the notice is necessary to:

(i) protect the privacy of medical information of individuals in the group; or

(ii) provide notice to the group in a manner that will efficiently and effectively notify the individuals in the group within the period of time necessary to protect the public health.

(b) When a department modifies notice to a group of individuals under Subsection (3)(a), the department shall provide each individual in the group with notice that complies with the provisions of Subsection (1) as soon as reasonably practical.

(4) (a) In addition to the rights of an individual described in Subsections (1) and (2), an individual subject to an order of restriction may not be terminated from employment if the reason for termination is based solely on the fact that the individual is or was subject to an order of restriction.

(b) The department issuing the order of restriction shall give the individual subject to the order of restriction notice of the individual's employment rights under Subsection (4)(a).

(c) An employer in the state, including an employer who is the state or a political subdivision of the state, may not violate the provisions of Subsection (4)(a).

Amended by Chapter 115, 2008 General Session

26-6b-3.4. Medical records -- Privacy protections.

(1) (a) Health care providers as defined in Section 78B-3-403, health care facilities licensed under Title 26, Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act, and governmental entities, shall, when requested, provide the public health official and the individual subject to an order of restriction, a copy of medical records that are relevant to the order of restriction.

(b) The records requested under Subsection (1)(a) shall be provided as soon as reasonably possible after the request is submitted to the health care provider or health care facility, or as soon as reasonably possible after the health care provider or facility receives the results of any relevant diagnostic testing of the individual.

(2) (a) The production of records under the provisions of this section is for the benefit of the public health and safety of the citizens of the state. A health care provider or facility is encouraged to provide copies of medical records or other records necessary to carry out the purpose of this chapter free of charge.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (2)(c), a health care facility that is a state governmental entity shall provide medical records or other records necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter, free of charge.

(c) If a health care provider or health care facility does not provide medical

records free of charge under the provisions of Subsection (2)(a) or (b), the health care provider or facility may charge a fee for the records that does not exceed the presumed reasonable charges established for workers' compensation by administrative rule adopted by the Labor Commission.

(3) Medical records held by a court related to orders of restriction under this chapter shall be sealed by the district court at the conclusion of the case.

Amended by Chapter 3, 2008 General Session
Amended by Chapter 115, 2008 General Session

26-6b-4. Judicial review by the district court -- Required notice -- Representation by counsel -- Conduct of proceedings.

(1) The provisions of this section and Sections 26-6b-5 through 26-6b-7 apply if a department issues an order for restriction, and:

(a) an individual subject to the order of restriction refuses to consent to the order of restriction;

(b) an individual subject to an order of restriction has withdrawn consent to an order of restriction under the provisions of Subsection 26-6b-3.1(1)(b)(iv)(B); or

(c) the department chooses to not attempt to obtain consent to an order of restriction and files an action for judicial review of the order of restriction.

(2) (a) If the individual who is subject to an order of restriction is in custody, the department, which is the petitioner, shall provide to the individual written notice of the petition for judicial review of the order of restriction and hearings held pursuant to Sections 26-6b-5 through 26-6b-7 as soon as practicable, and shall send the notice to the legal guardian, legal counsel for the parties involved, and any other persons and immediate adult family members whom the individual or the district court designates. The notice shall advise these persons that a hearing may be held within the time provided by this chapter.

(b) If the individual has refused to permit release of information necessary for the provision of notice under this Subsection (2), the extent of notice shall be determined by the district court.

(c) Notwithstanding the notice requirement in Subsection (2)(a), if the court determines that written notice to each individual in a group of individuals subject to an order of restriction is not practical considering the circumstances of the threat to public health, the court may order the department to provide notice to the individual or group of individuals in a manner determined by the court.

(3) (a) If the individual who is subject to an order of restriction is in custody, he shall be afforded an opportunity to be represented by counsel. If neither the individual nor others provide for counsel, the district court shall appoint counsel and allow counsel sufficient time to consult with the individual prior to the hearing. If the individual is indigent, the payment of reasonable attorney fees for counsel, as determined by the district court, shall be made by the county in which the individual resides or was found.

(b) The parties may appear at the hearings, to testify, and to present and cross-examine witnesses. The district court may, in its discretion, receive the testimony of any other individual.

(c) The district court may allow a waiver of the individual's right to appear only

for good cause shown, and that cause shall be made a part of the court record.

(d) The district court may order that the individual participate in the hearing by telephonic or other electronic means if the individual's condition poses a health threat to those who physically attend the hearing or to others if the individual is transported to the court.

(4) The district court may, in its discretion, order that the individual be moved to a more appropriate treatment, quarantine, or isolation facility outside of its jurisdiction, and may transfer the proceedings to any other district court within this state where venue is proper, provided that the transfer will not be adverse to the legal interests of the individual.

(5) All persons to whom notice is required to be given may attend the hearings. The district court may exclude from the hearing all persons not necessary for the conduct of the proceedings.

(6) All hearings shall be conducted in as informal a manner as may be consistent with orderly procedure, and in a physical setting that is not likely to have a harmful effect on the health of the individual or others required to participate in the hearing.

(7) The district court shall receive all relevant and material evidence which is offered, subject to Utah Rules of Evidence.

(8) The district court may order law enforcement to assist the petitioner in locating the individuals subject to restriction and enforcing the order of restriction.

Amended by Chapter 115, 2008 General Session

26-6b-5. Petition for judicial review of order of restriction -- Court-ordered examination period.

(1) (a) A department may petition for a judicial review of the department's order of restriction for an individual or group of individuals who are subject to restriction by filing a written petition with the district court of the county in which the individual or group of individuals reside or are located.

(b) (i) The county attorney for the county where the individual or group of individuals reside or are located shall represent the local health department in any proceedings under this chapter.

(ii) The Office of the Attorney General shall represent the department when the petitioner is the Department of Health in any proceedings under this chapter.

(2) The petition under Subsection (1) shall be accompanied by:

(a) written affidavit of the department stating:

(i) a belief the individual or group of individuals are subject to restriction;

(ii) a belief that the individual or group of individuals who are subject to restriction are likely to fail to submit to examination, treatment, quarantine, or isolation if not immediately restrained;

(iii) this failure would pose a threat to the public health; and

(iv) the personal knowledge of the individual's or group of individuals' condition or the circumstances that lead to that belief; and

(b) a written statement by a licensed physician indicating the physician finds the individual or group of individuals are subject to restriction.

(3) The court shall issue an order of restriction requiring the individual or group of individuals to submit to involuntary restriction to protect the public health if the district court finds:

(a) there is a reasonable basis to believe that the individual's or group of individuals' condition requires involuntary examination, quarantine, treatment, or isolation pending examination and hearing; or

(b) the individual or group of individuals have refused to submit to examination by a health professional as directed by the department or to voluntarily submit to examination, treatment, quarantine, or isolation.

(4) If the individual or group of individuals who are subject to restriction are not in custody, the court may make its determination and issue its order of restriction in an ex parte hearing.

(5) At least 24 hours prior to the hearing required by Section 26-6b-6, the department which is the petitioner, shall report to the court, in writing, the opinion of qualified health care providers:

(a) regarding whether the individual or group of individuals are infected by or contaminated with:

(i) a communicable or possible communicable disease that poses a threat to public health;

(ii) an infectious agent or possibly infectious agent that poses a threat to public health;

(iii) a chemical or biological agent that poses a threat to public health; or

(iv) a condition that poses a threat to public health;

(b) that despite the exercise of reasonable diligence, the diagnostic studies have not been completed;

(c) whether the individual or group of individuals have agreed to voluntarily comply with necessary examination, treatment, quarantine, or isolation; and

(d) whether the petitioner believes the individual or group of individuals will comply without court proceedings.

Amended by Chapter 115, 2008 General Session

26-6b-6. Court determination for an order of restriction after examination period.

(1) The district court shall set a hearing regarding the involuntary order of restriction of an individual or group of individuals, to be held within 10 business days of the issuance of its order of restriction issued pursuant to Section 26-6b-5, unless the petitioner informs the district court prior to this hearing that the individual or group of individuals:

(a) are not subject to restriction; or

(b) have stipulated to the issuance of an order of restriction.

(2) If the individual or an individual in a group of individuals has stipulated to the issuance of an order of restriction, the court may issue an order as provided in Subsection (6) for those individuals without further hearing.

(3) (a) If the examination report required in Section 26-6b-5 proves the individual or group of individuals are not subject to restriction, the court may without further

hearing terminate the proceedings and dismiss the petition.

(b) The court may, after a hearing at which the individual or group of individuals are present in person or by telephonic or other electronic means and have had the opportunity to be represented by counsel, extend its order of restriction for a reasonable period, not to exceed 90 days, if the court has reason to believe the individual or group of individuals are infected by or contaminated with:

(i) a communicable or possibly communicable disease that poses a threat to public health;

(ii) an infectious agent or possibly infectious agent that poses a threat to public health;

(iii) a chemical or biological agent that poses a threat to public health; or

(iv) a condition that poses a threat to public health, but, despite the exercise of reasonable diligence the diagnostic studies have not been completed.

(4) The petitioner shall, at the time of the hearing, provide the district court with the following items, to the extent that they have been issued or are otherwise available:

(a) the order of restriction issued by the petitioner;

(b) admission notes if any individual was hospitalized; and

(c) medical records pertaining to the current order of restriction.

(5) The information provided to the court under Subsection (4) shall also be provided to the individual's or group of individual's counsel at the time of the hearing, and at any time prior to the hearing upon request of counsel.

(6) (a) The district court shall order the individual and each individual in a group of individuals to submit to the order of restriction if, upon completion of the hearing and consideration of the record, it finds by clear and convincing evidence that:

(i) the individual or group of individuals are infected with a communicable disease or infectious agent, are contaminated with a chemical or biological agent, or are in a condition that poses a threat to public health;

(ii) there is no appropriate and less restrictive alternative to a court order of examination, quarantine, isolation, and treatment, or any of them;

(iii) the petitioner can provide the individual or group of individuals with treatment that is adequate and appropriate to the individual's or group of individuals' conditions and needs; and

(iv) it is in the public interest to order the individual or group of individuals to submit to involuntary examination, quarantine, isolation, and treatment, or any of them after weighing the following factors:

(A) the personal or religious beliefs, if any, of the individual that are opposed to medical examination or treatment;

(B) the ability of the department to control the public health threat with treatment alternatives that are requested by the individual;

(C) the economic impact for the department if the individual is permitted to use an alternative to the treatment recommended by the department; and

(D) other relevant factors as determined by the court.

(b) If upon completion of the hearing the court does not find all of the conditions listed in Subsection (6)(a) exist, the court shall immediately dismiss the petition.

(7) The order of restriction shall designate the period, subject to Subsection (8), for which the individual or group of individuals shall be examined, treated, isolated, or

quarantined.

(8) (a) The order of restriction may not exceed six months without benefit of a district court review hearing.

(b) The district court review hearing shall be held prior to the expiration of the order of restriction issued under Subsection (7). At the review hearing the court may issue an order of restriction for up to an indeterminate period, if the district court enters a written finding in the record determining by clear and convincing evidence that the required conditions in Subsection (6) will continue for an indeterminate period.

Amended by Chapter 115, 2008 General Session

26-6b-7. Periodic review of individuals under court order.

(1) At least two weeks prior to the expiration of the designated period of any court order still in effect, the petitioner shall inform the court that issued the order that the order is about to expire. The petitioner shall immediately reexamine the reasons upon which the court's order was based. If the petitioner determines that the conditions justifying that order no longer exist, it shall discharge the individual from involuntary quarantine, isolation, or treatment and report its action to the court for a termination of the order. Otherwise, the court shall schedule a hearing prior to the expiration of its order and proceed under Sections 26-6b-4 through 26-6b-6.

(2) The petitioner responsible for the care of an individual under a court order of involuntary quarantine, isolation, or treatment for an indeterminate period shall at six-month intervals reexamine the reasons upon which the order of indeterminate duration was based. If the petitioner determines that the conditions justifying that the court's order no longer exist, the petitioner shall discharge the individual from involuntary quarantine, isolation, or treatment and immediately report its action to the court for a termination of the order. If the petitioner determines that the conditions justifying the involuntary quarantine, isolation, or treatment continue to exist, the petitioner shall send a written report of those findings to the court. The petitioner shall notify the individual and his counsel of record in writing that the involuntary quarantine, isolation, or treatment will be continued, the reasons for that decision, and that the individual has the right to a review hearing by making a request to the court. Upon receiving the request for a review, the court shall immediately set a hearing date and proceed under Sections 26-6b-4 through 26-6b-6.

Enacted by Chapter 211, 1996 General Session

26-6b-8. Transportation of individuals subject to temporary or court-ordered restriction.

Transportation of an individual subject to an order of restriction to court, or to a place for examination, quarantine, isolation, or treatment pursuant a temporary order issued by a department, or pursuant to a court order, shall be conducted by the county sheriff where the individual is located.

Amended by Chapter 185, 2006 General Session

26-6b-9. Examination, quarantine, isolation, and treatment costs.

If a local health department obtains approval from the Department of Health, the costs that the local health department would otherwise have to bear for examination, quarantine, isolation, and treatment ordered under the provisions of this chapter shall be paid by the Department of Health to the extent that the individual is unable to pay and that other sources and insurance do not pay.

Amended by Chapter 185, 2006 General Session

26-6b-10. Severability.

If any provision of this chapter, or the application of this chapter to any person or circumstance, is found to be unconstitutional, the provision is severable and the balance of this chapter remains effective, notwithstanding that unconstitutionality.

Enacted by Chapter 211, 1996 General Session

26-7-1. Identification of major risk factors by department -- Education of public -- Establishment of programs.

The department shall identify the major risk factors contributing to injury, sickness, death, and disability within the state and where it determines that a need exists, educate the public regarding these risk factors, and the department may establish programs to reduce or eliminate these factors except that such programs may not be established if adequate programs exist in the private sector.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-7-2. Office of Health Disparities Reduction -- Duties.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Multicultural or minority health issue" means a health issue, including a mental and oral health issue, of particular interest to cultural, ethnic, racial, or other subpopulations, including:

(i) disparities in:

(A) disease incidence, prevalence, morbidity, mortality, treatment, and treatment response; and

(B) access to care; and

(ii) cultural competency in the delivery of health care.

(b) "Office" means the Office of Health Disparities Reduction created in this section.

(2) There is created within the department the Office of Health Disparities Reduction.

(3) The office shall:

(a) promote and coordinate the research, data production, dissemination, education, and health promotion activities of the following that relate to a multicultural or minority health issue:

(i) the department;

(ii) local health departments;

(iii) local mental health authorities;
(iv) public schools;
(v) community-based organizations; and
(vi) other organizations within the state;
(b) assist in the development and implementation of one or more programs to address a multicultural or minority health issue;
(c) promote the dissemination and use of information on a multicultural or minority health issue by minority populations, health care providers, and others;
(d) seek federal funding and other resources to accomplish the office's mission;
(e) provide technical assistance to organizations within the state seeking funding to study or address a multicultural or minority health issue;
(f) develop and increase the capacity of the office to:
(i) ensure the delivery of qualified timely culturally appropriate translation services across department programs; and
(ii) provide, when appropriate, linguistically competent translation and communication services for limited English proficiency individuals;
(g) provide staff assistance to any advisory committee created by the department to study a multicultural or minority health issue; and
(h) annually report to the Legislature on its activities and accomplishments.

Amended by Chapter 192, 2011 General Session

26-7-2.5. American Indian-Alaskan Native Health Liaison -- Duties.

(1) As used in this section:
(a) "Health care" means care, treatment, service, or a procedure to improve, maintain, diagnose, or otherwise affect an individual's physical or mental condition.
(b) "Liaison" means the American Indian-Alaskan Native Health Liaison appointed under this section.
(2) Subject to budget constraints, the executive director shall appoint an individual as the American Indian-Alaskan Native Health Liaison.
(3) The liaison shall on behalf of the executive director and the department:
(a) promote and coordinate collaborative efforts between the department and Utah's American Indian population to improve the availability and accessibility of quality health care impacting Utah's American Indian populations on and off reservations;
(b) interact with the following to improve health disparities for Utah's American Indian populations:
(i) tribal health programs;
(ii) local health departments;
(iii) state agencies and officials; and
(iv) providers of health care in the private sector;
(c) facilitate education, training, and technical assistance regarding public health and medical assistance programs to Utah's American Indian populations; and
(d) staff an advisory board by which Utah's tribes may consult with state and local agencies for the development and improvement of public health programs designed to address improved health care for Utah's American Indian populations on and off the reservation.

(4) The liaison shall annually report the liaison's activities and accomplishments to the Native American Legislative Liaison Committee created in Section 36-22-1.

Enacted by Chapter 192, 2011 General Session

26-7-4. Utah Registry of Autism and Developmental Disabilities.

(1) As used in this section, "URADD" means the Utah Registry of Autism and Developmental Disabilities.

(2) The department may enter into an agreement with:

(a) the University of Utah or another person for the operation of URADD; and

(b) a person to conduct a public education campaign to:

(i) improve public awareness of the early warning signs of autism spectrum disorders and developmental disabilities; and

(ii) promote the early identification of autism spectrum disorders and developmental disabilities.

(3) URADD shall consist of a database that collects information on people in the state who have an autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability.

(4) The purpose of URADD is to assist health care providers to:

(a) determine the risk factors and causes of autism spectrum disorders and developmental disabilities;

(b) plan for and develop resources, therapies, methods of diagnoses, and other services for people with an autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability;

(c) facilitate measuring and tracking of treatment outcomes;

(d) gather statistics relating to autism spectrum disorders and developmental disabilities; and

(e) improve coordination and cooperation between agencies and other programs that provide services to people with an autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability.

Enacted by Chapter 72, 2008 General Session

26-8a-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Utah Emergency Medical Services System Act."

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) (a) "911 ambulance or paramedic services" means:

(i) either:

(A) 911 ambulance service;

(B) 911 paramedic service; or

(C) both 911 ambulance and paramedic service; and

(ii) a response to a 911 call received by a designated dispatch center that receives 911 or E911 calls.

(b) "911 ambulance or paramedic service" does not mean a seven or ten digit

telephone call received directly by an ambulance provider licensed under this chapter.

(2) "Ambulance" means a ground, air, or water vehicle that:

(a) transports patients and is used to provide emergency medical services; and

(b) is required to obtain a permit under Section 26-8a-304 to operate in the state.

(3) "Ambulance provider" means an emergency medical service provider that:

(a) transports and provides emergency medical care to patients; and

(b) is required to obtain a license under Part 4, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers.

(4) "Committee" means the State Emergency Medical Services Committee created by Section 26-1-7.

(5) "Direct medical observation" means in-person observation of a patient by a physician, registered nurse, physician's assistant, or individual certified under Section 26-8a-302.

(6) "Emergency medical condition" means:

(a) a medical condition that manifests itself by symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in:

(i) placing the individual's health in serious jeopardy;

(ii) serious impairment to bodily functions; or

(iii) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part; or

(b) a medical condition that in the opinion of a physician or his designee requires direct medical observation during transport or may require the intervention of an individual certified under Section 26-8a-302 during transport.

(7) "Emergency medical service personnel":

(a) means an individual who provides emergency medical services to a patient and is required to be certified under Section 26-8a-302; and

(b) includes a paramedic, medical director of a licensed emergency medical service provider, emergency medical service instructor, and other categories established by the committee.

(8) "Emergency medical service providers" means:

(a) licensed ambulance providers and paramedic providers;

(b) a facility or provider that is required to be designated under Section 26-8a-303; and

(c) emergency medical service personnel.

(9) "Emergency medical services" means medical services, transportation services, or both rendered to a patient.

(10) "Emergency medical service vehicle" means a land, air, or water vehicle that is:

(a) maintained and used for the transportation of emergency medical personnel, equipment, and supplies to the scene of a medical emergency; and

(b) required to be permitted under Section 26-8a-304.

(11) "Governing body":

(a) is as defined in Section 11-42-102; and

(b) for purposes of a "special service district" under Section 11-42-102, means a

special service district that has been delegated the authority to select a provider under this chapter by the special service district's legislative body or administrative control board.

(12) "Interested party" means:

(a) a licensed or designated emergency medical services provider that provides emergency medical services within or in an area that abuts an exclusive geographic service area that is the subject of an application submitted pursuant to Part 4, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers;

(b) any municipality, county, or fire district that lies within or abuts a geographic service area that is the subject of an application submitted pursuant to Part 4, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers; or

(c) the department when acting in the interest of the public.

(13) "Medical control" means a person who provides medical supervision to an emergency medical service provider.

(14) "Non-911 service" means transport of a patient that is not 911 transport under Subsection (1).

(15) "Paramedic provider" means an entity that:

(a) employs emergency medical service personnel; and

(b) is required to obtain a license under Part 4, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers.

(16) "Patient" means an individual who, as the result of illness or injury, meets any of the criteria in Section 26-8a-305.

(17) "Political subdivision" means:

(a) a city or town located in a county of the first or second class as defined in Section 17-50-501;

(b) a county of the first or second class;

(c) the following districts located in a county of the first or second class:

(i) a special service district created under Title 17D, Chapter 1, Special Service District Act; or

(ii) a local district under Title 17B, Limited Purpose Local Government Entities - Local Districts, for the purpose of providing fire protection, paramedic, and emergency services;

(d) areas coming together as described in Subsection 26-8a-405.2(2)(b)(ii);

(e) an interlocal entity under Title 11, Chapter 13, Interlocal Cooperation Act; or

(f) a special service district for fire protection service under Subsection 17D-1-201(9).

(18) "Trauma" means an injury requiring immediate medical or surgical intervention.

(19) "Trauma system" means a single, statewide system that:

(a) organizes and coordinates the delivery of trauma care within defined geographic areas from the time of injury through transport and rehabilitative care; and

(b) is inclusive of all prehospital providers, hospitals, and rehabilitative facilities in delivering care for trauma patients, regardless of severity.

(20) "Triage" means the sorting of patients in terms of disposition, destination, or priority. For prehospital trauma victims, triage requires a determination of injury severity to assess the appropriate level of care according to established patient care protocols.

(21) "Triage, treatment, transportation, and transfer guidelines" means written procedures that:

(a) direct the care of patients; and

(b) are adopted by the medical staff of an emergency patient receiving facility, trauma center, or an emergency medical service provider.

Amended by Chapter 246, 2013 General Session

26-8a-103. State Emergency Medical Services Committee -- Membership -- Expenses.

(1) The State Emergency Medical Services Committee created by Section 26-1-7 shall be composed of the following 16 members appointed by the governor, at least five of whom shall reside in a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class:

(a) five physicians licensed under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice Act, or Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, as follows:

(i) one surgeon who actively provides trauma care at a hospital;

(ii) one rural physician involved in emergency medical care;

(iii) two physicians who practice in the emergency department of a general acute hospital; and

(iv) one pediatrician who practices in the emergency department or critical care unit of a general acute hospital or a children's specialty hospital;

(b) one representative from a private ambulance provider;

(c) one representative from an ambulance provider that is neither privately owned nor operated by a fire department;

(d) two chief officers from fire agencies operated by the following classes of licensed or designated emergency medical services providers: municipality, county, and fire district, provided that no class of medical services providers may have more than one representative under this Subsection (1)(d);

(e) one director of a law enforcement agency that provides emergency medical services;

(f) one hospital administrator;

(g) one emergency care nurse;

(h) one paramedic in active field practice;

(i) one emergency medical technician in active field practice;

(j) one certified emergency medical dispatcher affiliated with an emergency medical dispatch center; and

(k) one consumer.

(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), members shall be appointed to a four-year term beginning July 1.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), the governor shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of committee members are staggered so that approximately half of the committee is appointed every two years.

(c) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed by the governor for the unexpired term.

(3) (a) Each January, the committee shall organize and select one of its

members as chair and one member as vice chair. The committee may organize standing or ad hoc subcommittees, which shall operate in accordance with guidelines established by the committee.

(b) The chair shall convene a minimum of four meetings per year. The chair may call special meetings. The chair shall call a meeting upon request of five or more members of the committee.

(c) Nine members of the committee constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and the action of a majority of the members present is the action of the committee.

(4) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

(a) Section 63A-3-106;

(b) Section 63A-3-107; and

(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

(5) Administrative services for the committee shall be provided by the department.

Amended by Chapter 51, 2011 General Session
Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-8a-104. Committee powers.

The committee shall adopt rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, that:

(1) establish certification and reciprocity requirements under Section 26-8a-302;

(2) establish designation requirements under Section 26-8a-303;

(3) promote the development of a statewide emergency medical services system under Section 26-8a-203;

(4) establish insurance requirements for ambulance providers;

(5) provide guidelines for requiring patient data under Section 26-8a-203;

(6) establish criteria for awarding grants under Section 26-8a-207;

(7) establish requirements for the coordination of emergency medical services and the medical supervision of emergency medical service providers under Section 26-8a-306; and

(8) are necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the committee as specified in other sections of this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-8a-105. Department powers.

The department shall:

(1) coordinate the emergency medical services within the state;

(2) administer this chapter and the rules established pursuant to it;

(3) establish a voluntary task force representing a diversity of emergency medical service providers to advise the department and the committee on rules; and

(4) adopt rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative

Rulemaking Act, to:

(a) license ambulance providers and paramedic providers;

(b) permit ambulances and emergency medical response vehicles, including approving an emergency vehicle operator's course in accordance with Section 26-8a-304;

(c) establish application, submission, and procedural requirements for licenses, designations, certificates, and permits; and

(d) establish and implement the programs, plans, and responsibilities as specified in other sections of this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 350, 2013 General Session

26-8a-106. Waiver of rules.

(1) Upon application, the committee or department may waive the requirements of a rule it has adopted if:

(a) the person applying for the waiver satisfactorily demonstrates that:

(i) the waiver is necessary for a pilot project to be undertaken by the applicant;

(ii) in the particular situation, the requirement serves no beneficial public purpose; or

(iii) circumstances warrant that waiver of the requirement outweighs the public benefit to be gained by adherence to the rule; and

(b) for a waiver granted under Subsection (1)(a)(ii) or (iii), the committee or department:

(i) extends the waiver to similarly situated persons upon application; or

(ii) amends the rule to be consistent with the waiver.

(2) A waiver of education, licensing, or certification requirements may be granted to a veteran, as defined in Section 71-8-1, if the veteran:

(a) provides to the committee or department documentation showing military education and training in the field in which certification or licensure is sought; and

(b) successfully passes any examination required.

(3) No waiver may be granted under this section that is inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 181, 2011 General Session

26-8a-201. Public awareness efforts.

The department may:

(1) develop programs to inform the public of the emergency medical service system; and

(2) develop and disseminate emergency medical training programs for the public, which emphasize the prevention and treatment of injuries and illnesses.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-202. Emergency medical communications.

Consistent with federal law, the department is the lead agency for coordinating

the statewide emergency medical service communication systems under which emergency medical personnel, dispatch centers, and treatment facilities provide medical control and coordination between emergency medical service providers.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-203. Data collection.

(1) The committee shall specify the information that shall be collected for the emergency medical services data system established pursuant to Subsection (2).

(2) The department shall establish an emergency medical services data system which shall provide for the collection of information, as defined by the committee, relating to the treatment and care of patients who use or have used the emergency medical services system.

(3) Persons providing emergency medical services shall provide information to the department for the emergency medical services data system established pursuant to Subsection (2).

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-8a-204. Disaster coordination plan.

The department shall develop and implement, in cooperation with state, federal, and local agencies empowered to oversee disaster response activities, plans to provide emergency medical services during times of disaster or emergency.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-205. Pediatric quality improvement program.

The department shall establish a pediatric quality improvement resource program.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-206. Personnel stress management program.

(1) The department shall develop and implement a statewide program to provide support and counseling for personnel who have been exposed to one or more stressful incidents in the course of providing emergency services.

(2) This program shall include:

(a) ongoing training for agencies providing emergency services and counseling program volunteers; and

(b) critical incident stress debriefing for personnel at no cost to the emergency provider.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-207. Emergency medical services grant program.

(1) (a) The department shall receive as dedicated credits the amount

established in Section 51-9-403. That amount shall be transferred to the department by the Division of Finance from funds generated by the surcharge imposed under Title 51, Chapter 9, Part 4, Criminal Conviction Surcharge Allocation.

(b) Funds transferred to the department under this section shall be used for improvement of delivery of emergency medical services and administrative costs as described in Subsection (2)(a). Appropriations to the department for the purposes enumerated in this section shall be made from those dedicated credits.

(2) (a) The department may use the funds transferred to it under Subsection (1):

(i) to provide staff support; and

(ii) for other expenses incurred in:

(A) administration of grant funds; and

(B) other department administrative costs under this chapter.

(b) After funding staff support, administrative expenses, and trauma system development, the department and the committee shall make emergency medical services grants from the remaining funds received as dedicated credits under Subsection (1). A recipient of a grant under this Subsection (2)(b) shall actively provide emergency medical services within the state.

(c) The department shall distribute not less than 25% of the funds, with the percentage being authorized by a majority vote of the committee, as per capita block grants for use specifically related to the provision of emergency medical services to nonprofit prehospital emergency medical services providers that are either licensed or designated and to emergency medical services that are the primary emergency medical services for a service area. The department shall determine the grant amounts by prorating available funds on a per capita basis by county as described in department rule.

(d) The committee shall award the remaining funds as competitive grants for use specifically related to the provision of emergency medical services based upon rules established by the committee.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session
Amended by Chapter 303, 2011 General Session

26-8a-208. Fees for training equipment rental, testing, and quality assurance reviews.

(1) The department may charge fees, established pursuant to Section 26-1-6:

(a) for the use of department-owned training equipment;

(b) to administer tests and conduct quality assurance reviews; and

(c) to process an application for a certificate, designation, permit, or license.

(2) (a) Fees collected under Subsections (1)(a) and (b) shall be separate dedicated credits.

(b) Fees under Subsection (1)(a) may be used to purchase training equipment.

(c) Fees under Subsection (1)(b) may be used to administer tests and conduct quality assurance reviews.

Amended by Chapter 391, 2010 General Session

26-8a-250. Establishment of statewide trauma system.

The department shall establish and actively supervise a statewide trauma system to:

(1) promote optimal care for trauma patients;

(2) alleviate unnecessary death and disability from trauma and emergency illness;

(3) inform health care providers about trauma system capabilities;

(4) encourage the efficient and effective continuum of patient care, including prevention, prehospital care, hospital care, and rehabilitative care; and

(5) minimize the overall cost of trauma care.

Enacted by Chapter 305, 2000 General Session

26-8a-251. Trauma system advisory committee.

(1) There is created within the department the trauma system advisory committee.

(2) (a) The committee shall be comprised of individuals knowledgeable in adult or pediatric trauma care, including physicians, nurses, hospital administrators, emergency medical services personnel, government officials, consumers, and persons affiliated with professional health care associations.

(b) Representation on the committee shall be broad and balanced among the health care delivery systems in the state with no more than three representatives coming from any single delivery system.

(3) The committee shall:

(a) advise the department regarding trauma system needs throughout the state;

(b) assist the department in evaluating the quality and outcomes of the overall trauma system;

(c) review and comment on proposals and rules governing the statewide trauma system; and

(d) make recommendations for the development of statewide triage, treatment, transportation, and transfer guidelines.

(4) The department shall:

(a) determine, by rule, the term and causes for removal of committee members;

(b) establish committee procedures and administration policies consistent with this chapter and department rule; and

(c) provide administrative support to the committee.

Enacted by Chapter 305, 2000 General Session

26-8a-252. Department duties.

In connection with the statewide trauma system established in Section 26-8a-250, the department shall:

(1) establish a statewide trauma system plan that:

(a) identifies statewide trauma care needs, objectives, and priorities;

(b) identifies the equipment, facilities, personnel training, and other things necessary to create and maintain a statewide trauma system; and

(c) organizes and coordinates trauma care within defined geographic areas;
(2) support the statewide trauma system by:
(a) facilitating the coordination of prehospital, acute care, and rehabilitation services and providers through state regulation and oversight;
(b) facilitating the ongoing evaluation and refinement of the statewide trauma system;
(c) providing educational programs;
(d) encouraging cooperation between community organizations, health care facilities, public health officials, emergency medical service providers, and rehabilitation facilities for the development of a statewide trauma system;
(e) implementing a quality assurance program using information from the statewide trauma registry established pursuant to Section 26-8a-253;
(f) establishing trauma center designation requirements in accordance with Section 26-8a-254; and
(g) developing standards so that:
(i) trauma centers are categorized according to their capability to provide care;
(ii) trauma victims are triaged at the initial point of patient contact; and
(iii) trauma patients are sent to appropriate health care facilities.

Enacted by Chapter 305, 2000 General Session

26-8a-253. Statewide trauma registry and quality assurance program.
(1) The department shall:
(a) establish and fund a statewide trauma registry to collect and analyze information on the incidence, severity, causes, and outcomes of trauma;
(b) establish, by rule, the data elements, the medical care providers that shall report, and the time frame and format for reporting;
(c) use the data collected to:
(i) improve the availability and delivery of prehospital and hospital trauma care;
(ii) assess trauma care delivery, patient care outcomes, and compliance with the requirements of this chapter and applicable department rules; and
(iii) regularly produce and disseminate reports to data providers, state government, and the public; and
(d) support data collection and abstraction by providing:
(i) a data collection system and technical assistance to each hospital that submits data; and
(ii) funding or, at the discretion of the department, personnel for collection and abstraction for each hospital not designated as a trauma center under the standards established pursuant to Section 26-8a-254.
(2) (a) Each hospital shall submit trauma data in accordance with rules established under Subsection (1).
(b) A hospital designated as a trauma center shall submit data as part of the ongoing quality assurance program established in Section 26-8a-252.
(3) The department shall assess:
(a) the effectiveness of the data collected pursuant to Subsection (1); and
(b) the impact of the statewide trauma system on the provision of trauma care.

(4) Data collected under this section shall be subject to Chapter 3, Health Statistics.
(5) No person may be held civilly liable for having provided data to the department in accordance with this section.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-8a-254. Trauma center designations and guidelines.
(1) The department, after seeking the advice of the trauma system advisory committee, shall establish by rule:
(a) trauma center designation requirements; and
(b) model state guidelines for triage, treatment, transportation, and transfer of trauma patients to the most appropriate health care facility.
(2) The department shall designate as a trauma center each hospital that:
(a) voluntarily requests a trauma center designation; and
(b) meets the applicable requirements established pursuant to Subsection (1).

Enacted by Chapter 305, 2000 General Session

26-8a-301. General requirement.
(1) Except as provided in Section 26-8a-308 or 26-8b-201:
(a) an individual may not provide emergency medical services without a certificate issued under Section 26-8a-302;
(b) a facility or provider may not hold itself out as a designated emergency medical service provider without a designation issued under Section 26-8a-303;
(c) a vehicle may not operate as an ambulance or emergency response vehicle without a permit issued under Section 26-8a-304; and
(d) an entity may not respond as an ambulance or paramedic provider without the appropriate license issued under Part 4, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers.
(2) Section 26-8a-502 applies to violations of this section.

Amended by Chapter 22, 2009 General Session

26-8a-302. Certification of emergency medical service personnel.
(1) To promote the availability of comprehensive emergency medical services throughout the state, the committee shall establish:
(a) initial and ongoing certification and training requirements for emergency medical service personnel in the following categories:
(i) paramedic;
(ii) medical director;
(iii) emergency medical service instructor; and
(iv) other types of emergency medical personnel as the committee considers necessary; and
(b) guidelines for giving credit for out-of-state training and experience.
(2) The department shall, based on the requirements established in Subsection (1):

(a) develop, conduct, and authorize training and testing for emergency medical service personnel; and

(b) issue certifications and certification renewals to emergency medical service personnel.

(3) As provided in Section 26-8a-502, an individual issued a certificate under this section may only provide emergency medical services to the extent allowed by the certificate.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-303. Designation of emergency medical service providers.

(1) To ensure quality emergency medical services, the committee shall establish designation requirements for emergency medical service providers in the following categories:

(a) quick response provider;

(b) resource hospital for emergency medical providers;

(c) emergency medical service dispatch center;

(d) emergency patient receiving facilities; and

(e) other types of emergency medical service providers as the committee considers necessary.

(2) The department shall, based on the requirements in Subsection (1), issue designations to emergency medical service providers listed in Subsection (1).

(3) As provided in Section 26-8a-502, an entity issued a designation under Subsection (1) may only function and hold itself out in accordance with its designation.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-304. Permits for emergency medical service vehicles.

(1) (a) To ensure that emergency medical service vehicles are adequately staffed, safe, maintained, properly equipped, and safely operated, the committee shall establish permit requirements at levels it considers appropriate in the following categories:

(i) ambulance; and

(ii) emergency medical response vehicle.

(b) The permit requirements under this Subsection (1) shall include a requirement that beginning on or after January 31, 2014, every operator of an ambulance or emergency medical response vehicle annually provide proof of the successful completion of an emergency vehicle operator's course approved by the department for all ambulances and emergency medical response vehicle operators.

(2) The department shall, based on the requirements established in Subsection (1), issue permits to emergency medical service vehicles.

Amended by Chapter 350, 2013 General Session

26-8a-305. Ambulance license required for emergency medical transport.

Except as provided in Section 26-8a-308, only an ambulance operating under a

permit issued under Section 26-8a-304 may transport an individual who:

(1) is in an emergency medical condition;

(2) is medically or mentally unstable, requiring direct medical observation during transport;

(3) is physically incapacitated because of illness or injury and in need of immediate transport by emergency medical service personnel;

(4) is likely to require medical attention during transport;

(5) is being maintained on any type of emergency medical electronic monitoring;

(6) is receiving or has recently received medications that could cause a sudden change in medical condition that might require emergency medical services;

(7) requires IV administration or maintenance, oxygen that is not patient-operated, or other emergency medical services during transport;

(8) needs to be immobilized during transport to a hospital, an emergency patient receiving facility, or mental health facility due to a mental or physical condition, unless the individual is in the custody of a peace officer and the primary purpose of the restraint is to prevent escape;

(9) needs to be immobilized due to a fracture, possible fracture, or other medical condition; or

(10) otherwise requires or has the potential to require a level of medical care that the committee establishes as requiring direct medical observation.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-306. Medical control.

(1) The committee shall establish requirements for the coordination of emergency medical services rendered by emergency medical service providers, including the coordination between prehospital providers, hospitals, emergency patient receiving facilities, and other appropriate destinations.

(2) The committee may establish requirements for the medical supervision of emergency medical service providers to assure adequate physician oversight of emergency medical services and quality improvement.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-307. Patient destination.

(1) If an individual being transported by a ground or air ambulance is in critical or unstable condition, the ground or air ambulance shall transport the patient to the trauma center or closest emergency patient receiving facility appropriate to adequately treat the patient.

(2) If the patient's condition is not critical or unstable as determined by medical control, the ground or air ambulance may transport the patient to the:

(a) hospital, emergency patient receiving facility, or other medical provider chosen by the patient and approved by medical control as appropriate for the patient's condition and needs; or

(b) nearest hospital, emergency patient receiving facility, or other medical provider approved by medical control as appropriate for the patient's condition and

needs if the patient expresses no preference.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-308. Exemptions.

(1) The following persons may provide emergency medical services to a patient without being certified or licensed under this chapter:

(a) out-of-state emergency medical service personnel and providers in time of disaster;

(b) an individual who gratuitously acts as a Good Samaritan;

(c) a family member;

(d) a private business if emergency medical services are provided only to employees at the place of business and during transport;

(e) an agency of the United States government if compliance with this chapter would be inconsistent with federal law; and

(f) police, fire, and other public service personnel if:

(i) emergency medical services are rendered in the normal course of the person's duties; and

(ii) medical control, after being apprised of the circumstances, directs immediate transport.

(2) An ambulance or emergency response vehicle may operate without a permit issued under Section 26-8a-304 in time of disaster.

(3) Nothing in this chapter or Title 58, Occupations and Professions, may be construed as requiring a license or certificate for an individual to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation or to use a fully automated external defibrillator under Section 26-8b-201.

(4) Nothing in this chapter may be construed as requiring a license, permit, designation, or certificate for an acute care hospital, medical clinic, physician's office, or other fixed medical facility that:

(a) is staffed by a physician, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, or registered nurse; and

(b) treats an individual who has presented himself or was transported to the hospital, clinic, office, or facility.

Amended by Chapter 22, 2009 General Session

26-8a-309. Out-of-state vehicles.

(1) An ambulance or emergency response vehicle from another state may not pick up a patient in Utah to transport that patient to another location in Utah or to another state without a permit issued under Section 26-8a-304 and, in the case of an ambulance, a license issued under Part 4, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers.

(2) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), an ambulance or emergency response vehicle from another state may, without a permit or license:

(a) transport a patient into Utah; and

(b) provide assistance in time of disaster.

(3) The department may enter into agreements with ambulance and paramedic

providers and their respective licensing agencies from other states to assure the expeditious delivery of emergency medical services beyond what may be reasonably provided by licensed ambulance and paramedic providers, including the transportation of patients between states.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-310. Criminal background check.

(1) At the time of application for, or renewal of, a certificate, the department shall obtain, at the applicant's expense, information from a criminal history record or warrant of arrest information maintained by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Title 53, Chapter 10, Part 2, Bureau of Criminal Identification, to determine whether the individual has been convicted of a crime that bears upon the individual's fitness to be certified or to have responsibility for the safety and well-being of children, the elderly, or persons with disabilities.

(2) (a) An applicant who has not had residency in the state for the last five years shall submit fingerprints and other identifying information.

(b) The department shall submit fingerprints obtained under Subsection (2)(a) to the Department of Public Safety to be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a nationwide criminal history record check to determine whether the individual has been convicted of a crime that bears upon the individual's fitness to be certified or to have responsibility for the safety and well-being of children, the elderly, or persons with disabilities.

(3) The department shall have access to juvenile court records to determine whether the applicant has been adjudicated in juvenile court of committing an act which if committed by an adult would be a felony or misdemeanor and that bears upon the applicant's fitness to be certified or to have responsibility for the safety and well-being of children, the elderly, or persons with disabilities if:

(a) the applicant is under the age of 28; or

(b) the applicant is over the age of 28 and has been convicted, has pleaded no contest, or is currently subject to a plea in abeyance or diversion agreement for a felony or misdemeanor.

(4) Information obtained pursuant to Subsections (1) through (3) may be used to:

(a) withhold certification or renewal;

(b) commence or substantiate disciplinary action under Section 26-8a-503;

(c) enforce the provisions of this chapter; and

(d) notify the individual's employer as necessary to protect the public.

(5) The department shall adopt rules under Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, consistent with this chapter, defining the circumstances under which an applicant who has been convicted of a criminal offense may receive a certification under this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-8a-401. State regulation of emergency medical services market.

(1) To ensure emergency medical service quality and minimize unnecessary duplication, the department shall regulate the emergency medical service market after October 1, 1999, by creating and operating a statewide system that:

(a) consists of exclusive geographic service areas as provided in Section 26-8a-402; and

(b) establishes maximum rates as provided in Section 26-8a-403.

(2) (a) All licenses issued prior to July 1, 1996, shall expire as stated in the license.

(b) If no expiration date is stated on a license issued before July 1, 1996, the license shall expire on October 1, 1999, unless:

(i) the license holder requests agency action before August 1, 1999; and

(ii) before October 1, 1999, the department:

(A) finds the license has been used as the basis for responding to requests for ambulance or paramedic services during the past five years;

(B) identifies one or more specific geographic areas covered by the license in which the license holder has actively and adequately responded as the primary provider to requests for ambulance or paramedic services during the past five years; and

(C) determines that the continuation of a license in a specific geographic area identified in Subsection (2)(b)(ii)(B) satisfies:

(I) the standards established pursuant to Subsection 26-8a-404(2); and

(II) the requirement of public convenience and necessity.

(c) If the department finds that a license meets the requirements of Subsection (2)(b), the department shall amend the license to reflect:

(i) the specific geographic area of the license; and

(ii) a four-year term extension.

(d) Before July 1, 1999, the department shall publish notice once a week for four consecutive weeks of the expiration of licenses pursuant to Subsection (2)(b) in a newspaper of general circulation in the state.

(e) Nothing in this Subsection (2) may be construed as restricting the authority of the department to amend overlapping licenses pursuant to Section 26-8a-416.

(3) After October 1, 1999, new licenses and license renewals shall be for a four-year term.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-402. Exclusive geographic service areas.

(1) Each ground ambulance provider license issued under this part shall be for an exclusive geographic service area as described in the license. Only the licensed ground ambulance provider may respond to an ambulance request that originates within the provider's exclusive geographic service area, except as provided in Subsection (5) and Section 26-8a-416.

(2) Each paramedic provider license issued under this part shall be for an exclusive geographic service area as described in the license. Only the licensed paramedic provider may respond to a paramedic request that originates within the exclusive geographic service area, except as provided in Subsection (6) and Section 26-8a-416.

(3) Nothing in this section may be construed as either requiring or prohibiting that the formation of boundaries in a given location be the same for a licensed paramedic provider as it is for a licensed ambulance provider.

(4) (a) A licensed ground ambulance or paramedic provider may, as necessary, enter into a mutual aid agreement to allow another licensed provider to give assistance in times of unusual demand, as that term is defined by the committee in rule.

(b) A mutual aid agreement shall include a formal written plan detailing the type of assistance and the circumstances under which it would be given.

(c) The parties to a mutual aid agreement shall submit a copy of the agreement to the department.

(d) Notwithstanding this Subsection (4), a licensed provider may not subcontract with another entity to provide services in the licensed provider's exclusive geographic service area.

(5) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), a licensed ground ambulance provider may respond to an ambulance request that originates from the exclusive geographic area of another provider:

(a) pursuant to a mutual aid agreement;

(b) to render assistance on a case-by-case basis to that provider; and

(c) as necessary to meet needs in time of disaster or other major emergency.

(6) Notwithstanding Subsection (2), a licensed paramedic provider may respond to a paramedic request that originates from the exclusive geographic area of another provider:

(a) pursuant to a mutual aid agreement;

(b) to render assistance on a case-by-case basis to that provider; and

(c) as necessary to meet needs in time of disaster or other major emergency.

Amended by Chapter 1, 2000 General Session

26-8a-403. Establishment of maximum rates.

(1) The department shall, after receiving recommendations under Subsection (2), establish maximum rates for ground ambulance providers and paramedic providers that are just and reasonable.

(2) The committee may make recommendations to the department on the maximum rates that should be set under Subsection (1).

(3) (a) The department shall prohibit ground ambulance providers and paramedic providers from charging fees for transporting a patient when the provider does not transport the patient.

(b) The provisions of Subsection (3)(a) do not apply to ambulance providers or paramedic providers in a geographic service area which contains a town as defined in Subsection 10-2-301(2)(f).

Amended by Chapter 209, 2006 General Session

26-8a-404. Ground ambulance and paramedic licenses -- Application and department review.

(1) Except as provided in Section 26-8a-413, an applicant for a ground

ambulance or paramedic license shall apply to the department for a license only by:

(a) submitting a completed application;

(b) providing information in the format required by the department; and

(c) paying the required fees, including the cost of the hearing officer.

(2) The department shall make rules establishing minimum qualifications and requirements for:

(a) personnel;

(b) capital reserves;

(c) equipment;

(d) a business plan;

(e) operational procedures;

(f) medical direction agreements;

(g) management and control; and

(h) other matters that may be relevant to an applicant's ability to provide ground ambulance or paramedic service.

(3) An application for a license to provide ground ambulance service or paramedic service shall be for all ground ambulance services or paramedic services arising within the geographic service area, except that an applicant may apply for a license for less than all ground ambulance services or all paramedic services arising within an exclusive geographic area if it can demonstrate how the remainder of that area will be served.

(4) (a) A ground ambulance service licensee may apply to the department for a license to provide a higher level of service as defined by department rule if:

(i) the application for the license is limited to non-911 ambulance or paramedic services; and

(ii) the application includes:

(A) a copy of the new treatment protocols for the higher level of service approved by the off-line medical director;

(B) an assessment of field performance by the applicant's off-line director; and

(C) an updated plan of operation demonstrating the ability of the applicant to provide the higher level of service.

(b) If the department determines that the applicant has demonstrated the ability to provide the higher level of service in accordance with Subsection (4)(a), the department shall issue a revised license reflecting the higher level of service and the requirements of Section 26-8a-408 do not apply.

(5) Upon receiving a completed application and the required fees, the department shall review the application and determine whether the application meets the minimum qualifications and requirements for licensure.

(6) The department may deny an application if it finds that it contains any materially false or misleading information, is incomplete, or if the application demonstrates that the applicant fails to meet the minimum qualifications and requirements for licensure under Subsection (2).

(7) If the department denies an application, it shall notify the applicant in writing setting forth the grounds for the denial. A denial may be appealed under Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-8a-405. Ground ambulance and paramedic licenses -- Agency notice of approval.

(1) Beginning January 1, 2004, if the department determines that the application meets the minimum requirements for licensure under Section 26-8a-404, the department shall issue a notice of the approved application to the applicant.

(2) A current license holder responding to a request for proposal under Section 26-8a-405.2 is considered an approved applicant for purposes of Section 26-8a-405.2 if the current license holder, prior to responding to the request for proposal, submits the following to the department:

(a) the information required by Subsection 26-8a-404(4)(a)(ii); and

(b) if the license holder is a private entity, a financial statement, a pro forma budget and necessary letters of credit demonstrating a financial ability to expand service to a new service area; or

(c) if the license holder is a governmental entity, a letter from the governmental entity's governing body demonstrating the governing body's willingness to financially support the application.

Amended by Chapter 213, 2003 General Session

26-8a-405.1. Selection of provider by political subdivision.

(1) (a) Only an applicant approved under Section 26-8a-405 may respond to a request for a proposal issued in accordance with Section 26-8a-405.2 or Section 26-8a-405.4 by a political subdivision.

(b) A response to a request for proposal is subject to the maximum rates established by the department under Section 26-8a-403.

(c) A political subdivision may award a contract to an applicant in response to a request for proposal:

(i) in accordance with Section 26-8a-405.2; and

(ii) subject to Subsection (2).

(2) (a) The department shall issue a license to an applicant selected by a political subdivision under Subsection (1) unless the department finds that issuing a license to that applicant would jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the geographic service area.

(b) A license issued under this Subsection (2):

(i) is for the exclusive geographic service area approved by the department in accordance with Subsection 26-8a-405.2(2);

(ii) is valid for four years;

(iii) is not subject to a request for license from another applicant under the provisions of Sections 26-8a-406 through 26-8a-409 during the four-year term, unless the applicant's license is revoked under Section 26-8a-504; and

(iv) is subject to supervision by the department under Sections 26-8a-503 and 26-8a-504.

(3) Except as provided in Subsection 26-8a-405.3(4)(a), the provisions of Sections 26-8a-406 through 26-8a-409 do not apply to a license issued under this

section.

Amended by Chapter 187, 2010 General Session

26-8a-405.2. Selection of provider -- Request for competitive sealed proposal -- Public convenience and necessity.

(1) (a) A political subdivision may contract with an applicant approved under Section 26-8a-404 to provide services for the geographic service area that is approved by the department in accordance with Subsection (2), if:

(i) the political subdivision complies with the provisions of this section and Section 26-8a-405.3 if the contract is for 911 ambulance or paramedic services; or

(ii) the political subdivision complies with Sections 26-8a-405.3 and 26-8a-405.4, if the contract is for non-911 services.

(b) (i) The provisions of this section and Sections 26-8a-405.1, 26-8a-405.3, and 26-8a-405.4 do not require a political subdivision to issue a request for proposal for ambulance or paramedic services or non-911 services.

(ii) If a political subdivision does not contract with an applicant in accordance with this section and Section 26-8a-405.3, the provisions of Sections 26-8a-406 through 26-8a-409 apply to the issuance of a license for ambulance or paramedic services in the geographic service area that is within the boundaries of the political subdivision.

(iii) If a political subdivision does not contract with an applicant in accordance with this section, Section 26-8a-405.3 and Section 26-8a-405.4, a license for the non-911 services in the geographic service area that is within the boundaries of the political subdivision may be issued:

(A) under the public convenience and necessity provisions of Sections 26-8a-406 through 26-8a-409; or

(B) by a request for proposal issued by the department under Section 26-8a-405.5.

(c) (i) For purposes of this Subsection (1)(c):

(A) "Fire district" means a local district under Title 17B, Limited Purpose Local Government Entities - Local Districts, that:

(I) is located in a county of the first or second class; and

(II) provides fire protection, paramedic, and emergency services.

(B) "Participating municipality" means a city or town whose area is partly or entirely included within a county service area or fire district.

(C) "Participating county" means a county whose unincorporated area is partly or entirely included within a fire district.

(ii) A participating municipality or participating county may as provided in this section and Section 26-8a-405.3, contract with a provider for 911 ambulance or paramedic service.

(iii) If the participating municipality or participating county contracts with a provider for services under this section and Section 26-8a-405.3:

(A) the fire district is not obligated to provide the services that are included in the contract between the participating municipality or the participating county and the provider;

(B) the fire district may impose taxes and obligations within the fire district in the

same manner as if the participating municipality or participating county were receiving all services offered by the fire district; and

(C) the participating municipality's and participating county's obligations to the fire district are not diminished.

(2) (a) The political subdivision shall submit the request for proposal and the exclusive geographic service area to be included in a request for proposal issued under Subsections (1)(a)(i) or (ii) to the department for approval prior to issuing the request for proposal. The department shall approve the request for proposal and the exclusive geographic service area:

(i) unless the geographic service area creates an orphaned area; and

(ii) in accordance with Subsections (2)(b) and (c).

(b) The exclusive geographic service area may:

(i) include the entire geographic service area that is within the political subdivision's boundaries;

(ii) include islands within or adjacent to other peripheral areas not included in the political subdivision that governs the geographic service area; or

(iii) exclude portions of the geographic service area within the political subdivision's boundaries if another political subdivision or licensed provider agrees to include the excluded area within their license.

(c) The proposed geographic service area for 911 ambulance or paramedic service shall demonstrate that non-911 ambulance or paramedic service will be provided in the geographic service area, either by the current provider, the applicant, or some other method acceptable to the department. The department may consider the effect of the proposed geographic service area on the costs to the non-911 provider and that provider's ability to provide only non-911 services in the proposed area.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-8a-405.3. Use of competitive sealed proposals -- Procedure -- Appeal rights.

(1) (a) Competitive sealed proposals for paramedic or 911 ambulance services under Section 26-8a-405.2, or for non-911 services under Section 26-8a-405.4, shall be solicited through a request for proposal and the provisions of this section.

(b) The governing body of the political subdivision shall approve the request for proposal prior to the notice of the request for proposals under Subsection (1)(c).

(c) (i) Notice of the request for proposals shall be published:

(A) at least once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county; or

(B) if there is no such newspaper, then notice shall be posted for at least 20 days in at least five public places in the county; and

(ii) in accordance with Section 45-1-101 for at least 20 days.

(2) (a) Proposals shall be opened so as to avoid disclosure of contents to competing offerors during the process of negotiations.

(b) (i) Subsequent to the published notice, and prior to selecting an applicant, the political subdivision shall hold a presubmission conference with interested applicants for the purpose of assuring full understanding of, and responsiveness to,

solicitation requirements.

(ii) A political subdivision shall allow at least 90 days from the presubmission conference for the proposers to submit proposals.

(c) Subsequent to the presubmission conference, the political subdivision may issue addenda to the request for proposals. An addenda to a request for proposal shall be finalized and posted by the political subdivision at least 45 days before the day on which the proposal must be submitted.

(d) Offerors to the request for proposals shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revisions of proposals, and revisions may be permitted after submission and before a contract is awarded for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers.

(e) In conducting discussions, there shall be no disclosures of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

(3) (a) (i) A political subdivision may select an applicant approved by the department under Section 26-8a-404 to provide 911 ambulance or paramedic services by contract to the most responsible offeror as defined in Section 63G-6a-103.

(ii) An award under Subsection (3)(a)(i) shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be the most advantageous to the political subdivision, taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposal.

(b) The applicants who are approved under Section 26-8a-405 and who are selected under this section may be the political subdivision issuing the request for competitive sealed proposals, or any other public entity or entities, any private person or entity, or any combination thereof.

(c) A political subdivision may reject all of the competitive proposals.

(4) In seeking competitive sealed proposals and awarding contracts under this section, a political subdivision:

(a) shall apply the public convenience and necessity factors listed in Subsections 26-8a-408(2) through (6);

(b) shall require the applicant responding to the proposal to disclose how the applicant will meet performance standards in the request for proposal;

(c) may not require or restrict an applicant to a certain method of meeting the performance standards, including:

(i) requiring ambulance medical personnel to also be a firefighter; or

(ii) mandating that offerors use fire stations or dispatch services of the political subdivision;

(d) shall require an applicant to submit the proposal:

(i) based on full cost accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principals; and

(ii) if the applicant is a governmental entity, in addition to the requirements of Subsection (4)(e)(i), in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards and in compliance with the State of Utah Legal Compliance Audit Guide; and

(e) shall set forth in the request for proposal:

(i) the method for determining full cost accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and require an applicant to submit the proposal based on such full cost accounting principles;

(ii) guidelines established to further competition and provider accountability; and

(iii) a list of the factors that will be considered by the political subdivision in the award of the contract, including by percentage, the relative weight of the factors established under this Subsection (4)(e), which may include such things as:

(A) response times;

(B) staging locations;

(C) experience;

(D) quality of care; and

(E) cost, consistent with the cost accounting method in Subsection (4)(e)(i).

(5) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code, to the contrary, the provisions of Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code, apply to the procurement process required by this section, except as provided in Subsection (5)(c).

(b) A procurement appeals panel described in Section 63G-6a-1702 shall have jurisdiction to review and determine an appeal of an offeror under this section.

(c) (i) An offeror may appeal the solicitation or award as provided by the political subdivision's procedures. After all political subdivision appeal rights are exhausted, the offeror may appeal under the provisions of Subsections (5)(a) and (b).

(ii) A procurement appeals panel described in Section 63G-6a-1702 shall determine whether the solicitation or award was made in accordance with the procedures set forth in this section and Section 26-8a-405.2.

(d) The determination of an issue of fact by the appeals board shall be final and conclusive unless arbitrary and capricious or clearly erroneous as provided in Section 63G-6a-1705.

Amended by Chapter 91, 2012 General Session
Amended by Chapter 347, 2012 General Session, (Coordination Clause)
Amended by Chapter 347, 2012 General Session

26-8a-405.4. Non-911 provider -- Finding of meritorious complaint -- Request for proposals.

(1) Notwithstanding Subsection 26-8a-102(17), for purposes of this section, political subdivision includes:

(a) a county of any class; and

(b) a city or town located in a county of any class.

(2) (a) This section applies to a non-911 provider license under this chapter.

(b) The department shall, in accordance with Subsections (4) and (5):

(i) receive a complaint about a non-911 provider;

(ii) determine whether the complaint has merit;

(iii) issue a finding of:

(A) a meritorious complaint; or

(B) a non-meritorious complaint; and

(iv) forward a finding of a meritorious complaint to the governing body of the political subdivision:

(A) in which the non-911 provider is licensed; or

(B) that provides the non-911 services, if different from Subsection (2)(b)(iv)(A).

(3) (a) A political subdivision that receives a finding of a meritorious complaint from the department:

(i) shall take corrective action that the political subdivision determines is appropriate; and

(ii) shall, if the political subdivision determines corrective action will not resolve the complaint or is not appropriate:

(A) issue a request for proposal for non-911 service in the geographic service area if the political subdivision will not respond to the request for proposal; or

(B) (I) make a finding that a request for proposal for non-911 services is appropriate and the political subdivision intends to respond to a request for proposal; and

(II) submit the political subdivision's findings to the department with a request that the department issue a request for proposal in accordance with Section 26-8a-405.5.

(b) (i) If Subsection (3)(a)(ii)(A) applies, the political subdivision shall issue the request for proposal in accordance with Sections 26-8a-405.1 through 26-8a-405.3.

(ii) If Subsection (3)(a)(ii)(B) applies, the department shall issue a request for proposal for non-911 services in accordance with Section 26-8a-405.5.

(4) The department shall make a determination under Subsection (2)(b) if:

(a) the department receives a written complaint from any of the following in the geographic service area:

(i) a hospital;

(ii) a health care facility;

(iii) a political subdivision; or

(iv) an individual; and

(b) the department determines, in accordance with Subsection (2)(b), that the complaint has merit.

(5) (a) If the department receives a complaint under Subsection (2)(b), the department shall request a written response from the non-911 provider concerning the complaint.

(b) The department shall make a determination under Subsection (2)(b) based on:

(i) the written response from the non-911 provider; and

(ii) other information that the department may have concerning the quality of service of the non-911 provider.

(c) (i) The department's determination under Subsection (2)(b) is not subject to an adjudicative proceeding under Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

(ii) The department shall adopt administrative rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to implement the provisions of Subsection (2)(b).

Enacted by Chapter 187, 2010 General Session

26-8a-405.5. Use of competitive sealed proposals -- Procedure -- Appeal rights.

(1) (a) The department shall issue a request for proposal for non-911 services in

a geographic service area if the department receives a request from a political subdivision under Subsection 26-8a-405.4(3)(a)(ii)(B) to issue a request for proposal for non-911 services.

(b) Competitive sealed proposals for non-911 services under Subsection (1)(a) shall be solicited through a request for proposal and the provisions of this section.

(c) (i) Notice of the request for proposals shall be published:

(A) at least once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county; or

(B) if there is no such newspaper, then notice shall be posted for at least 20 days in at least five public places in the county; and

(ii) in accordance with Section 45-1-101 for at least 20 days.

(2) (a) Proposals shall be opened so as to avoid disclosure of contents to competing offerors during the process of negotiations.

(b) (i) Subsequent to the published notice, and prior to selecting an applicant, the department shall hold a presubmission conference with interested applicants for the purpose of assuring full understanding of, and responsiveness to, solicitation requirements.

(ii) The department shall allow at least 90 days from the presubmission conference for the proposers to submit proposals.

(c) Subsequent to the presubmission conference, the department may issue addenda to the request for proposals. An addenda to a request for proposal shall be finalized and posted by the department at least 45 days before the day on which the proposal must be submitted.

(d) Offerors to the request for proposals shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revisions of proposals, and revisions may be permitted after submission and before a contract is awarded for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers.

(e) In conducting discussions, there shall be no disclosures of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

(3) (a) (i) The department may select an applicant approved by the department under Section 26-8a-404 to provide non-911 services by contract to the most responsible offeror as defined in Section 63G-6a-103.

(ii) An award under Subsection (3)(a)(i) shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be the most advantageous to the public, taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposal.

(b) The applicants who are approved under Section 26-8a-405 and who are selected under this section may be the political subdivision responding to the request for competitive sealed proposals, or any other public entity or entities, any private person or entity, or any combination thereof.

(c) The department may reject all of the competitive proposals.

(4) In seeking competitive sealed proposals and awarding contracts under this section, the department:

(a) shall consider the public convenience and necessity factors listed in Subsections 26-8a-408(2) through (6);

(b) shall require the applicant responding to the proposal to disclose how the

applicant will meet performance standards in the request for proposal;

(c) may not require or restrict an applicant to a certain method of meeting the performance standards, including:

(i) requiring ambulance medical personnel to also be a firefighter; or

(ii) mandating that offerors use fire stations or dispatch services of the political subdivision;

(d) shall require an applicant to submit the proposal:

(i) based on full cost accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principals; and

(ii) if the applicant is a governmental entity, in addition to the requirements of Subsection (4)(e)(i), in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards and in compliance with the State of Utah Legal Compliance Audit Guide; and

(e) shall set forth in the request for proposal:

(i) the method for determining full cost accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and require an applicant to submit the proposal based on such full cost accounting principles;

(ii) guidelines established to further competition and provider accountability; and

(iii) a list of the factors that will be considered by the department in the award of the contract, including by percentage, the relative weight of the factors established under this Subsection (4)(e), which may include such things as:

(A) response times;

(B) staging locations;

(C) experience;

(D) quality of care; and

(E) cost, consistent with the cost accounting method in Subsection (4)(e)(i).

(5) A license issued under this section:

(a) is for the exclusive geographic service area approved by the department;

(b) is valid for four years;

(c) is not subject to a request for license from another applicant under the provisions of Sections 26-8a-406 through 26-8a-409 during the four-year term, unless the applicant's license is revoked under Section 26-8a-504;

(d) is subject to supervision by the department under Sections 26-8a-503 and 26-8a-504; and

(e) except as provided in Subsection (4)(a), is not subject to the provisions of Sections 26-8a-406 through 26-8a-409.

Amended by Chapter 347, 2012 General Session

26-8a-406. Ground ambulance and paramedic licenses -- Parties.

(1) When an applicant approved under Section 26-8a-404 seeks licensure under the provisions of Sections 26-8a-406 through 26-8a-409, the department shall:

(a) issue a notice of agency action to the applicant to commence an informal administrative proceeding;

(b) provide notice of the application to all interested parties; and

(c) publish notice of the application, at the applicant's expense:

(i) once a week for four consecutive weeks, in a newspaper of general

circulation in the geographic service area that is the subject of the application; and

(ii) in accordance with Section 45-1-101 for four weeks.

(2) An interested party has 30 days to object to an application.

(3) If an interested party objects, the presiding officer shall join the interested party as an indispensable party to the proceeding.

(4) The department may join the proceeding as a party to represent the public interest.

(5) Others who may be affected by the grant of a license to the applicant may join the proceeding, if the presiding officer determines that they meet the requirement of legal standing.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-8a-407. Ground ambulance and paramedic licenses -- Proceedings.

(1) The presiding officer shall:

(a) commence an informal adjudicative proceeding within 120 days of receiving a completed application;

(b) meet with the applicant and objecting interested parties and provide no less than 120 days for a negotiated resolution, consistent with the criteria in Section 26-8a-408;

(c) set aside a separate time during the proceedings to accept public comment on the application; and

(d) present a written decision to the executive director if a resolution has been reached that satisfies the criteria in Section 26-8a-408.

(2) At any time during an informal adjudicative proceeding under Subsection (1), any party may request conversion of the informal adjudicative proceeding to a formal adjudicative proceeding in accordance with Section 63G-4-202.

(3) Upon conversion to a formal adjudicative proceeding, a hearing officer shall be assigned to the application as provided in Section 26-8a-409. The hearing office shall:

(a) set aside a separate time during the proceedings to accept public comment on the application;

(b) apply the criteria established in Section 26-8a-408; and

(c) present a recommended decision to the executive director in writing.

(4) The executive director may, as set forth in a final written order, accept, modify, reject, or remand the decision of a presiding or hearing officer after:

(a) reviewing the record;

(b) giving due deference to the officer's decision; and

(c) determining whether the criteria in Section 26-8a-408 have been satisfied.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-8a-408. Criteria for determining public convenience and necessity.

(1) The criteria for determining public convenience and necessity is set forth in Subsections (2) through (6).

(2) Access to emergency medical services shall be maintained or improved.

The officer shall consider the impact on existing services, including the impact on response times, call volumes, populations and exclusive geographic service areas served, and the ability of surrounding licensed providers to service their exclusive geographic service areas. The issuance or amendment of a license may not create an orphaned area.

(3) The quality of service in the area shall be maintained or improved. The officer shall consider the:

(a) staffing and equipment standards of the current licensed provider and the applicant;

(b) training and certification levels of the current licensed provider's staff and the applicant's staff;

(c) continuing medical education provided by the current licensed provider and the applicant;

(d) levels of care as defined by department rule;

(e) plan of medical control; and

(f) the negative or beneficial impact on the regional emergency medical service system to provide service to the public.

(4) The cost to the public shall be justified. The officer shall consider:

(a) the financial solvency of the applicant;

(b) the applicant's ability to provide services within the rates established under Section 26-8a-403;

(c) the applicant's ability to comply with cost reporting requirements;

(d) the cost efficiency of the applicant; and

(e) the cost effect of the application on the public, interested parties, and the emergency medical services system.

(5) Local desires concerning cost, quality, and access shall be considered. The officer shall assess and consider:

(a) the existing provider's record of providing services and the applicant's record and ability to provide similar or improved services;

(b) locally established emergency medical services goals, including those established in Subsection (7);

(c) comment by local governments on the applicant's business and operations plans;

(d) comment by interested parties that are providers on the impact of the application on the parties' ability to provide emergency medical services;

(e) comment by interested parties that are local governments on the impact of the application on the citizens it represents; and

(f) public comment on any aspect of the application or proposed license.

(6) Other related criteria:

(a) the officer considers necessary; or

(b) established by department rule.

(7) The role of local governments in the licensing of ground ambulance and paramedic providers that serve areas also served by the local governments is important. The Legislature strongly encourages local governments to establish cost, quality, and access goals for the ground ambulance and paramedic services that serve their areas.

(8) In a formal adjudicative proceeding, the applicant bears the burden of establishing that public convenience and necessity require the approval of the application for all or part of the exclusive geographic service area requested.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-8a-409. Ground ambulance and paramedic licenses -- Hearing and presiding officers.

(1) The department shall set certification and training standards for hearing officers and presiding officers.

(2) At a minimum, a presiding officer shall:

(a) be familiar with the theory and application of public convenience and necessity; and

(b) have a working knowledge of the emergency medical service system in the state.

(3) In addition to the requirements in Subsection (2), a hearing officer shall also be licensed to practice law in the state.

(4) The department shall provide training for hearing officer and presiding officer candidates in the theory and application of public convenience and necessity and on the emergency medical system in the state.

(5) The department shall maintain a roster of no less than five individuals who meet the minimum qualifications for both presiding and hearing officers and the standards set by the department.

(6) The parties may mutually select an officer from the roster if the officer is available.

(7) If the parties cannot agree upon an officer under Subsection (4), the department shall randomly select an officer from the roster or from a smaller group of the roster agreed upon by the applicant and the objecting interested parties.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-410. Local approvals.

(1) Licensed ambulance providers and paramedic providers shall meet all local zoning and business licensing standards generally applicable to businesses operating within the jurisdiction.

(2) Publicly subsidized providers shall demonstrate approval of the taxing authority that will provide the subsidy.

(3) A publicly operated service shall demonstrate that the governing body has approved the provision of services to the entire exclusive geographic service area that is the subject of the license, including those areas that may lie outside the territorial or jurisdictional boundaries of the governing body.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-8a-411. Limitation on repetitive applications.

A person who has previously applied for a license under Sections 26-8a-406

through 26-8a-409 may not apply for a license for the same service that covers any exclusive geographic service area that was the subject of the prior application unless:

(1) one year has passed from the date of the issuance of a final decision under Section 26-8a-407; or

(2) all interested parties and the department agree that a new application is in the public interest.

Amended by Chapter 213, 2003 General Session

26-8a-412. License for air ambulance providers.

(1) An applicant for an air ambulance provider shall apply to the department for a license only by:

(a) submitting a complete application;

(b) providing information in the format required by the department; and

(c) paying the required fees.

(2) The department may make rules establishing minimum qualifications and requirements for:

(a) personnel;

(b) capital reserves;

(c) equipment;

(d) business plan;

(e) operational procedures;

(f) resource hospital and medical direction agreements;

(g) management and control qualifications and requirements; and

(h) other matters that may be relevant to an applicant's ability to provide air ambulance services.

(3) Upon receiving a completed application and the required fees, the department shall review the application and determine whether the application meets the minimum requirements for licensure.

(4) The department may deny an application for an air ambulance if:

(a) the department finds that the application contains any materially false or misleading information or is incomplete;

(b) the application demonstrates that the applicant fails to meet the minimum requirements for licensure; or

(c) the department finds after inspection that the applicant does not meet the minimum requirements for licensure.

(5) If the department denies an application under this section, it shall notify the applicant in writing setting forth the grounds for the denial.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-413. License renewals.

(1) A licensed provider desiring to renew its license shall meet the renewal requirements established by department rule.

(2) The department shall issue a renewal license for a ground ambulance provider or a paramedic provider upon the licensee's application for a renewal and

without a public hearing if there has been:

(a) no change in controlling interest in the ownership of the licensee as defined in Section 26-8a-415;

(b) no serious, substantiated public complaints filed with the department against the licensee during the term of the previous license;

(c) no material or substantial change in the basis upon which the license was originally granted;

(d) no reasoned objection from the committee or the department; and

(e) if the applicant was licensed under the provisions of Sections 26-8a-406 through 26-8a-409, no conflicting license application.

(3) (a) (i) The provisions of this Subsection (3) apply to a provider licensed under the provisions of Sections 26-8a-405.1 and 26-8a-405.2.

(ii) A provider may renew its license if the provisions of Subsections (1), (2)(a) through (d), and this Subsection (3) are met.

(b) (i) The department shall issue a renewal license to a provider upon the provider's application for renewal for one additional four-year term if the political subdivision certifies to the department that the provider has met all of the specifications of the original bid.

(ii) If the political subdivision does not certify to the department that the provider has met all of the specifications of the original bid, the department may not issue a renewal license and the political subdivision shall enter into a public bid process under Sections 26-8a-405.1 and 26-8a-405.2.

(c) (i) The department shall issue an additional renewal license to a provider who has already been issued a one-time renewal license under the provisions of Subsection (3)(b)(i) if the department and the political subdivision do not receive, prior to the expiration of the provider's license, written notice from an approved applicant informing the political subdivision of the approved applicant's desire to submit a bid for ambulance or paramedic service.

(ii) If the department and the political subdivision receive the notice in accordance with Subsection (3)(c)(i), the department may not issue a renewal license and the political subdivision shall enter into a public bid process under Sections 26-8a-405.1 and 26-8a-405.2.

(4) The department shall issue a renewal license for an air ambulance provider upon the licensee's application for renewal and completion of the renewal requirements established by department rule.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-8a-414. Annexations.

(1) A municipality shall comply with the provisions of this section if the municipality is licensed under this chapter and desires to provide service to an area that is:

(a) included in a petition for annexation under Title 10, Chapter 2, Part 4, Annexation; and

(b) currently serviced by another provider licensed under this chapter.

(2) (a) (i) At least 45 days prior to approving a petition for annexation, the

municipality shall certify to the department that by the time of the approval of the annexation the municipality can meet or exceed the current level of service provided by the existing licensee for the annexed area by meeting the requirements of Subsections (2)(b)(ii)(A) through (D); and

(ii) no later than three business days after the municipality files a petition for annexation in accordance with Section 10-2-403, provide written notice of the petition for annexation to:

(A) the existing licensee providing service to the area included in the petition of annexation; and

(B) the department.

(b) (i) After receiving a certification under Subsection (2)(a), but prior to the municipality approving a petition for annexation, the department may audit the municipality only to verify the requirements of Subsections (2)(b)(ii)(A) through (D).

(ii) If the department elects to conduct an audit, the department shall make a finding that the municipality can meet or exceed the current level of service provided by the existing licensee for the annexed area if the department finds that the municipality has or will have by the time of the approval of the annexation:

(A) adequate trained personnel to deliver basic and advanced life support services;

(B) adequate apparatus and equipment to deliver emergency medical services;

(C) adequate funding for personnel and equipment; and

(D) appropriate medical controls, such as a medical director and base hospital.

(iii) The department shall submit the results of the audit in writing to the municipal legislative body.

(3) (a) If the department audit finds that the municipality meets the requirements of Subsection (2)(b)(ii), the department shall issue an amended license to the municipality and all other affected licensees to reflect the municipality's new boundaries after the department receives notice of the approval of the petition for annexation from the municipality in accordance with Section 10-2-425.

(b) (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection 63G-4-102(2)(k), if the department audit finds that the municipality fails to meet the requirements of Subsection (2)(b)(ii), the municipality may request an adjudicative proceeding under the provisions of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act. The municipality may approve the petition for annexation while an adjudicative proceeding requested under this Subsection (3)(b)(i) is pending.

(ii) The department shall conduct an adjudicative proceeding when requested under Subsection (3)(b)(i).

(iii) Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 26-8a-404 through 26-8a-409, in any adjudicative proceeding held under the provisions of Subsection (3)(b)(i), the department bears the burden of establishing that the municipality cannot, by the time of the approval of the annexation, meet the requirements of Subsection (2)(b)(ii).

(c) If, at the time of the approval of the annexation, an adjudicative proceeding is pending under the provisions of Subsection (3)(b)(i), the department shall issue amended licenses if the municipality prevails in the adjudicative proceeding.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-8a-415. Changes in ownership.

(1) A licensed provider whose ownership or controlling ownership interest has changed shall submit information to the department, as required by department rule:

(a) to establish whether the new owner or new controlling party meets minimum requirements for licensure; and

(b) except as provided in Subsection (2), to commence an administrative proceeding to determine whether the new owner meets the requirement of public convenience and necessity under Section 26-8a-408.

(2) An administrative proceeding is not required under Subsection (1)(b) if:

(a) the change in ownership interest is among existing owners of a closely held corporation and the change does not result in a change in the management of the licensee or in the name of the licensee;

(b) the change in ownership in a closely held corporation results in the introduction of new owners, provided that:

(i) the new owners are limited to individuals who would be entitled to the equity in the closely held corporation by the laws of intestate succession had the transferor died intestate at the time of the transfer;

(ii) the majority owners on January 1, 1999, have been disclosed to the department by October 1, 1999, and the majority owners on January 1, 1999, retain a majority interest in the closely held corporation; and

(iii) the name of the licensed provider remains the same;

(c) the change in ownership is the result of one or more owners transferring their interests to a trust, limited liability company, partnership, or closely held corporation so long as the transferors retain control over the receiving entity;

(d) the change in ownership is the result of a distribution of an estate or a trust upon the death of the testator or the trustor and the recipients are limited to individuals who would be entitled to the interest by the laws of intestate succession had the transferor died intestate at the time of the transfer; or

(e) other similar changes that the department establishes, by rule, as having no significant impact on the cost, quality, or access to emergency medical services.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-416. Transition to eliminate inconsistent licenses.

(1) By May 30, 2000, the department shall review all licenses in effect on October 2, 1999, to identify overlap, as defined in department rule, in the service areas of two or more licensed providers.

(2) By June 30, 2000, the department shall notify all licensed providers affected by an overlap. By September 30, 2000, the department shall schedule, by order, a deadline to resolve each overlap, considering the effects on the licensed providers and the areas to be addressed.

(3) For each overlap, the department shall meet with the affected licensed providers and provide 120 days for a negotiated resolution, consistent with the criteria in Section 26-8a-408.

(4) (a) If a resolution is reached under Subsection (2) that the department finds satisfies the criteria in Section 26-8a-408, the department shall amend the licenses to

reflect the resolution consistent with Subsection (6).

(b) If a resolution is not reached under Subsection (2), the department or any of the licensed providers involved in the matter may request the commencement of a formal adjudicative proceeding to resolve the overlap.

(5) The department shall commence adjudicative proceedings for any overlap that is not resolved by July 1, 2003.

(6) Notwithstanding the exclusive geographic service requirement of Section 26-8a-402, the department may amend one or more licenses after a resolution is reached or an adjudicative proceeding has been held to allow:

(a) a single licensed provider to serve all or part of the overlap area;

(b) more than one licensed provider to serve the overlap area;

(c) licensed providers to provide different types of service in the overlap area; or

(d) licenses that recognize service arrangements that existed on September 30, 1999.

(7) Notwithstanding Subsection (6), any license for an overlap area terminates upon:

(a) relinquishment by the provider; or

(b) revocation by the department.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-501. Discrimination.

(1) No person licensed, certified, or designated pursuant to this chapter may discriminate in the provision of emergency medical services on the basis of race, sex, color, creed, or prior inquiry as to ability to pay.

(2) This chapter does not authorize or require medical assistance or transportation over the objection of an individual on religious grounds.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-502. Illegal activity.

(1) Except as provided in Section 26-8a-308 or 26-8b-201, a person may not:

(a) practice or engage in the practice, represent himself to be practicing or engaging in the practice, or attempt to practice or engage in the practice of any activity that requires a license, certification, or designation under this chapter unless that person is so licensed, certified, or designated; or

(b) offer an emergency medical service that requires a license, certificate, or designation unless the person is so licensed, certified, or designated.

(2) A person may not advertise or hold himself out as one holding a license, certification, or designation required under this chapter, unless that person holds the license, certification, or designation.

(3) A person may not employ or permit any employee to perform any service for which a license or certificate is required by this chapter, unless the person performing the service possesses the required license or certificate.

(4) A person may not wear, display, sell, reproduce, or otherwise use any Utah Emergency Medical Services insignia without authorization from the department.

(5) A person may not reproduce or otherwise use materials developed by the department for certification or recertification testing or examination without authorization from the department.

(6) A person may not willfully summon an ambulance or emergency response vehicle or report that one is needed when such person knows that the ambulance or emergency response vehicle is not needed.

(7) A person who violates this section is subject to Section 26-23-6.

Amended by Chapter 22, 2009 General Session

26-8a-503. Discipline of emergency medical services personnel.

(1) The department may refuse to issue a certificate or renewal, or revoke, suspend, restrict, or place on probation an individual's certificate if:

(a) the individual does not meet the qualifications for certification under Section 26-8a-302;

(b) the individual has engaged in conduct, as defined by committee rule, that:

(i) is unprofessional;

(ii) is adverse to the public health, safety, morals, or welfare; or

(iii) would adversely affect public trust in the emergency medical service system;

(c) the individual has violated Section 26-8a-502 or other provision of this chapter;

(d) a court of competent jurisdiction has determined the individual to be mentally incompetent for any reason; or

(e) the individual is unable to provide emergency medical services with reasonable skill and safety because of illness, drunkenness, use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material, or as a result of any other mental or physical condition, when the individual's condition demonstrates a clear and unjustifiable threat or potential threat to oneself, coworkers, or the public health, safety, or welfare that cannot be reasonably mitigated.

(2) (a) An action to revoke, suspend, restrict, or place a certificate on probation shall be done in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), the department may issue a cease and desist order under Section 26-8a-507 to immediately suspend an individual's certificate pending an administrative proceeding to be held within 30 days if there is evidence to show that the individual poses a clear, immediate, and unjustifiable threat or potential threat to the public health, safety, or welfare.

(3) An individual whose certificate has been suspended, revoked, or restricted may apply for reinstatement of the certificate at reasonable intervals and upon compliance with any conditions imposed upon the certificate by statute, committee rule, or the terms of the suspension, revocation, or restriction.

(4) In addition to taking disciplinary action under Subsection (1), the department may impose sanctions in accordance with Section 26-23-6.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-8a-504. Discipline of designated and licensed providers.

(1) The department may refuse to issue a license or designation or a renewal, or revoke, suspend, restrict, or place on probation, an emergency medical service provider's license or designation if the provider has:

(a) failed to abide by terms of the license or designation;

(b) violated statute or rule;

(c) failed to provide services at the level or in the exclusive geographic service area required by the license or designation;

(d) failed to submit a renewal application in a timely fashion as required by department rule;

(e) failed to follow operational standards established by the committee; or

(f) committed an act in the performance of a professional duty that endangered the public or constituted gross negligence.

(2) (a) An action to revoke, suspend, restrict, or place a license or designation on probation shall be done in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), the department may issue a cease and desist order under Section 26-8a-507 to immediately suspend a license or designation pending an administrative proceeding to be held within 30 days if there is evidence to show that the provider or facility poses a clear, immediate, and unjustifiable threat or potential threat to the public health, safety, or welfare.

(3) In addition to taking disciplinary action under Subsection (1), the department may impose sanctions in accordance with Section 26-23-6.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-8a-505. Service interruption or cessation -- Receivership -- Default coverage -- Notice.

(1) Acting in the public interest, the department may petition the district court where an ambulance or paramedic provider operates or the district court with jurisdiction in Salt Lake County to appoint the department or an independent receiver to continue the operations of a provider upon any one of the following conditions:

(a) the provider ceases or intends to cease operations;

(b) the provider becomes insolvent;

(c) the department has initiated proceedings to revoke the provider's license and has determined that the lives, health, safety, or welfare of the population served within the provider's exclusive geographic service area are endangered because of the provider's action or inaction pending a full hearing on the license revocation; or

(d) the department has revoked the provider's license and has been unable to adequately arrange for another provider to take over the provider's exclusive geographic service area.

(2) If a licensed or designated provider ceases operations or is otherwise unable to provide services, the department may arrange for another licensed provider to provide services on a temporary basis until a license is issued.

(3) A licensed provider shall give the department 30 days notice of its intent to cease operations.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-506. Investigations for enforcement of chapter.

(1) The department may, for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with the provisions of this chapter, enter and inspect on a routine basis the business premises and equipment of a person:

(a) with a certificate, designation, permit, or license; or

(b) who holds himself out to the general public as providing a service for which a certificate, designation, permit, or license is required under Section 26-8a-301.

(2) Before conducting an inspection under Subsection (1), the department shall, after identifying the person in charge:

(a) give proper identification;

(b) describe the nature and purpose of the inspection; and

(c) if necessary, explain the authority of the department to conduct the inspection.

(3) In conducting an inspection under Subsection (1), the department may, after meeting the requirements of Subsection (2):

(a) inspect records, equipment, and vehicles; and

(b) interview personnel.

(4) An inspection conducted under Subsection (1) shall be during regular operational hours.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-507. Cease and desist orders.

The department may issue a cease and desist order to any person who:

(1) may be disciplined under Section 26-8a-503 or 26-8a-504; or

(2) otherwise violates this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter.

Enacted by Chapter 141, 1999 General Session

26-8a-601. Persons and activities exempt from civil liability.

(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or licensed registered nurse who, gratuitously and in good faith, gives oral or written instructions to any of the following is not liable for any civil damages as a result of issuing the instructions:

(i) an individual certified under Section 26-8a-302;

(ii) a person who uses a fully automated external defibrillator, as defined in Section 26-8b-102; or

(iii) a person who administers CPR, as defined in Section 26-8b-102.

(b) The liability protection described in Subsection (1)(a) does not apply if the instructions given were the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

(2) An individual certified under Section 26-8a-302, during either training or after certification, a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or a registered nurse who, gratuitously and in good faith, provides emergency medical instructions or renders emergency medical care authorized by this chapter is not liable for any civil damages

as a result of any act or omission in providing the emergency medical instructions or medical care, unless the act or omission is the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

(3) An individual certified under Section 26-8a-302 is not subject to civil liability for failure to obtain consent in rendering emergency medical services authorized by this chapter to any individual who is unable to give his consent, regardless of the individual's age, where there is no other person present legally authorized to consent to emergency medical care, provided that the certified individual acted in good faith.

(4) A principal, agent, contractor, employee, or representative of an agency, organization, institution, corporation, or entity of state or local government that sponsors, authorizes, supports, finances, or supervises any functions of an individual certified under Section 26-8a-302 is not liable for any civil damages for any act or omission in connection with such sponsorship, authorization, support, finance, or supervision of the certified individual where the act or omission occurs in connection with the certified individual's training or occurs outside a hospital where the life of a patient is in immediate danger, unless the act or omission is inconsistent with the training of the certified individual, and unless the act or omission is the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

(5) A physician who gratuitously and in good faith arranges for, requests, recommends, or initiates the transfer of a patient from a hospital to a critical care unit in another hospital is not liable for any civil damages as a result of such transfer where:

(a) sound medical judgment indicates that the patient's medical condition is beyond the care capability of the transferring hospital or the medical community in which that hospital is located; and

(b) the physician has secured an agreement from the receiving facility to accept and render necessary treatment to the patient.

(6) A person who is a registered member of the National Ski Patrol System (NSPS) or a member of a ski patrol who has completed a course in winter emergency care offered by the NSPS combined with CPR for medical technicians offered by the American Red Cross or American Heart Association, or an equivalent course of instruction, and who in good faith renders emergency care in the course of ski patrol duties is not liable for civil damages as a result of any act or omission in rendering the emergency care, unless the act or omission is the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

(7) An emergency medical service provider who, in good faith, transports an individual against his will but at the direction of a law enforcement officer pursuant to Section 62A-15-629 is not liable for civil damages for transporting the individual.

Amended by Chapter 22, 2009 General Session

26-8b-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Utah Sudden Cardiac Arrest Survival Act."

Enacted by Chapter 22, 2009 General Session

26-8b-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Account" means the Automatic External Defibrillator Restricted Account, created in Section 26-8b-602.

(2) "Automatic external defibrillator" or "AED" means an automated or automatic computerized medical device that:

(a) has received pre-market notification approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration, pursuant to Section 360(k), Title 21 of the United States Code;

(b) is capable of recognizing the presence or absence of ventricular fibrillation or rapid ventricular tachycardia;

(c) is capable of determining, without intervention by an operator, whether defibrillation should be performed; and

(d) upon determining that defibrillation should be performed, automatically charges, enabling delivery of, or automatically delivers, an electrical impulse through the chest wall and to a person's heart.

(3) "Bureau" means the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, within the department.

(4) "Cardiopulmonary resuscitation" or "CPR" means artificial ventilation or external chest compression applied to a person who is unresponsive and not breathing.

(5) "Emergency medical dispatch center" means a public safety answering point, as defined in Section 63C-7-103, that is designated as an emergency medical dispatch center by the bureau.

(6) "Sudden cardiac arrest" means a life-threatening condition that results when a person's heart stops or fails to produce a pulse.

Amended by Chapter 98, 2013 General Session
Amended by Chapter 99, 2013 General Session

26-8b-201. Authority to administer CPR or use an AED.

(1) A person may administer CPR on another person without a license, certificate, or other governmental authorization if the person reasonably believes that the other person is in sudden cardiac arrest.

(2) A person may use an AED on another person without a license, certificate, or other governmental authorization if the person reasonably believes that the other person is in sudden cardiac arrest.

Enacted by Chapter 22, 2009 General Session

26-8b-202. Immunity.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (3), the following persons are not subject to civil liability for any act or omission relating to preparing to care for, responding to care for, or providing care to, another person who reasonably appears to be in sudden cardiac arrest:

(a) a person authorized, under Section 26-8b-201, to administer CPR, who:

(i) gratuitously and in good faith attempts to administer or administers CPR to another person; or

(ii) fails to administer CPR to another person;
(b) a person authorized, under Section 26-8b-201, to use an AED who:
(i) gratuitously and in good faith attempts to use or uses an AED; or
(ii) fails to use an AED;
(c) a person that teaches or provides a training course in administering CPR or using an AED;
(d) a person that acquires an AED;
(e) a person that owns, manages, or is otherwise responsible for the premises or conveyance where an AED is located;
(f) a person who retrieves an AED in response to a perceived or potential sudden cardiac arrest;
(g) a person that authorizes, directs, or supervises the installation or provision of an AED;
(h) a person involved with, or responsible for, the design, management, or operation of a CPR or AED program;
(i) a person involved with, or responsible for, reporting, receiving, recording, updating, giving, or distributing information relating to the ownership or location of an AED under Part 3, AED Databases; or
(j) a physician who gratuitously and in good faith:
(i) provides medical oversight for a public AED program; or
(ii) issues a prescription for a person to acquire or use an AED.
(2) This section does not relieve a manufacturer, designer, developer, marketer, or commercial distributor of an AED, or an accessory for an AED, of any liability.
(3) The liability protection described in Subsection (1) does not apply to an act or omission that constitutes gross negligence or willful misconduct.

Enacted by Chapter 22, 2009 General Session

26-8b-301. Reporting location of automatic external defibrillators.
(1) In accordance with Subsection (2) and except as provided in Subsection (3):
(a) a person who owns or leases an AED shall report the person's name, address, and telephone number, and the exact location of the AED, in writing or by a web-based AED registration form, if available, to the emergency medical dispatch center that provides emergency dispatch services for the location where the AED is installed, if the person:
(i) installs the AED;
(ii) causes the AED to be installed; or
(iii) allows the AED to be installed; and
(b) a person who owns or leases an AED that is removed from a location where it is installed shall report the person's name, address, and telephone number, and the exact location from which the AED is removed, in writing or by a web-based AED registration form, if available, to the emergency medical dispatch center that provides emergency dispatch services for the location from which the AED is removed, if the person:
(i) removes the AED;
(ii) causes the AED to be removed; or

(iii) allows the AED to be removed.

(2) A report required under Subsection (1) shall be made within 14 days after the day on which the AED is installed or removed.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to an AED:

(a) at a private residence; or

(b) in a vehicle or other mobile or temporary location.

(4) A person who owns or leases an AED that is installed in, or removed from, a private residence may voluntarily report the location of, or removal of, the AED to the emergency medical dispatch center that provides emergency dispatch services for the location where the private residence is located.

(5) The department may not impose a penalty on a person for failing to comply with the requirements of this section.

Amended by Chapter 98, 2013 General Session

26-8b-302. Distributors to notify of reporting requirements.

A person in the business of selling or leasing an AED shall, at the time the person provides, sells, or leases an AED to another person, notify the other person, in writing, of the reporting requirements described in Section 26-8b-301.

Enacted by Chapter 22, 2009 General Session

26-8b-303. Duties of emergency medical dispatch centers.

An emergency medical dispatch center shall:

(1) implement a system to receive and manage the information reported to the emergency medical dispatch center under Section 26-8b-301;

(2) record in the system described in Subsection (1), all information received under Section 26-8b-301 within 14 days after the day on which the information is received;

(3) inform a person who calls to report a potential incident of sudden cardiac arrest of the location of an AED located at the address of the potential sudden cardiac arrest;

(4) provide verbal instructions to a person described in Subsection (3) to:

(a) help a person determine if a patient is in cardiac arrest; and

(b) if needed:

(i) provide direction to start CPR;

(ii) offer instructions on how to perform CPR; or

(iii) offer instructions on how to use an AED, if one is available; and

(5) provide the information contained in the system described in Subsection (1), upon request, to the bureau.

Amended by Chapter 98, 2013 General Session

26-8b-401. Education and training.

(1) The bureau shall work in cooperation with federal, state, and local agencies and schools, to encourage individuals to complete courses on the administration of

CPR and the use of an AED.

(2) A person who owns or leases an AED shall encourage each person who is likely to use the AED to complete courses on the administration of CPR and the use of an AED.

Enacted by Chapter 22, 2009 General Session

26-8b-402. AEDs for demonstration purposes.

(1) Any AED used solely for demonstration or training purposes, which is not operational for emergency use is, except for the provisions of this section, exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

(2) The owner of an AED described in Subsection (1) shall clearly mark on the exterior of the AED that the AED is for demonstration or training use only.

Enacted by Chapter 98, 2013 General Session

26-8b-501. Tampering with an AED prohibited -- Penalties.

A person is guilty of a class C misdemeanor if the person removes, tampers with, or otherwise disturbs an AED, AED cabinet or enclosure, or AED sign, unless:

(1) the person is authorized by the AED owner for the purpose of:

(a) inspecting the AED or AED cabinet or enclosure; or

(b) performing maintenance or repairs on the AED, the AED cabinet or enclosure, a wall or structure that the AED cabinet or enclosure is directly attached to, or an AED sign;

(2) the person is responding to, or providing care to, a potential sudden cardiac arrest patient; or

(3) the person acts in good faith with the intent to support, and not to violate, the recognized purposes of the AED.

Enacted by Chapter 98, 2013 General Session

26-8b-601. Title.

This part is known as the "Automatic External Defibrillator Restricted Account."

Enacted by Chapter 99, 2013 General Session

26-8b-602. Automatic External Defibrillator Restricted Account.

(1) (a) There is created a restricted account within the General Fund known as the Automatic External Defibrillator Restricted Account to provide AEDs to entities under Subsection (4).

(b) The director of the bureau shall administer the account in accordance with rules made by the bureau in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(2) The restricted account shall consist of money appropriated to the account by the Legislature.

(3) The director of the bureau shall distribute funds deposited in the account to

eligible entities, under Subsection (4), for the purpose of purchasing:

(a) an AED;

(b) an AED carrying case;

(c) a wall-mounted AED cabinet; or

(d) an AED sign.

(4) Upon appropriation, the director of the bureau shall distribute funds deposited in the account, for the purpose of purchasing items under Subsection (3), to:

(a) a municipal department of safety that routinely responds to incidents, or potential incidents, of sudden cardiac arrest;

(b) a municipal or county law enforcement agency that routinely responds to incidents, or potential incidents, of sudden cardiac arrest;

(c) a state law enforcement agency that routinely responds to incidents, or potential incidents, of sudden cardiac arrest;

(d) a school that offers instruction to grades 7 through 12; or

(e) a state institution of higher education.

(5) The director of the bureau shall distribute funds under this section to a municipality only if the municipality provides a match in funding for the total cost of items under Subsection (3):

(a) of 50% for the municipality, if the municipality is a city of first, second, or third class under Section 10-2-301; or

(b) of 75% for the municipality, other than a municipality described in Subsection (5)(a).

(6) The director of the bureau shall distribute funds under this section to a county only if the county provides a match in funding for the total cost of items under Subsection (3):

(a) of 50% for the county, if the county is a county of first, second, or third class under Section 17-50-501; or

(b) of 75% for the county, other than a county described in Subsection (6)(a).

(7) In accordance with rules made by the bureau, an entity described in Subsection (4) may apply to the director of the bureau to receive a distribution of funds from the account by filing an application with the bureau on or before October 1 of each year.

Enacted by Chapter 99, 2013 General Session

26-9-1. Assistance to rural communities by department.

The department shall assist rural communities in dealing with primary health care needs relating to recruiting health professionals, planning, and technical assistance. The department shall assist the communities, at their request, at any stage of development of new or expanded primary health care services and shall work with them to improve primary health care by providing information to increase the effectiveness of their systems, to decrease duplication and fragmentation of services, and to maximize community use of private gifts, and local, state, and federal grants and contracts.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-9-2. Responsibility of department for coordinating rural health programs.

The department shall be the lead agency responsible for coordinating rural health programs and shall insure that resources available for rural health are efficiently and effectively used.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-9-3. Rural health development initiatives.

(1) (a) The University of Utah Health Science Center shall use any appropriations it receives for developing area health education centers to establish and maintain an area health education center program in accordance with this section.

(b) Implementation and execution of the area health education center program is contingent upon appropriations from the Legislature.

(2) (a) The area health education center program shall consist of a central program office at the University of Utah Health Science Center. The program office shall establish and operate a statewide, decentralized, regional program with emphasis on addressing rural health professions workforce education and training needs.

(b) The area health education center program shall have five regional centers serving the following geographic areas:

(i) the northern center serving Box Elder, Cache, Rich, Weber, and Morgan counties;

(ii) the crossroads center serving Salt Lake, Wasatch, Summit, Tooele, Utah, and Davis counties;

(iii) the central center serving Juab, Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, and Wayne counties;

(iv) the eastern center serving Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, Grand, San Juan, and Uintah counties; and

(v) the southwest center serving Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, and Washington counties.

(3) The area health education center program shall attempt to acquire funding from state, local, federal, and private sources.

(4) Each area health education center shall provide community-based health professions education programming for the geographic area described in Subsection (2)(b) of this section.

Amended by Chapter 95, 2001 General Session

26-9-4. Rural Health Care Facilities Account -- Source of revenues -- Interest -- Distribution of revenues -- Expenditure of revenues -- Unexpended revenues lapse into the General Fund.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Emergency medical services" is as defined in Section 26-8a-102.

(b) "Federally qualified health center" is as defined in 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1395x.

(c) "Fiscal year" means a one-year period beginning on July 1 of each year.

(d) "Freestanding urgent care center" is as defined in Section 59-12-801.

(e) "Nursing care facility" is as defined in Section 26-21-2.
(f) "Rural city hospital" is as defined in Section 59-12-801.
(g) "Rural county health care facility" is as defined in Section 59-12-801.
(h) "Rural county hospital" is as defined in Section 59-12-801.
(i) "Rural county nursing care facility" is as defined in Section 59-12-801.
(j) "Rural emergency medical services" is as defined in Section 59-12-801.
(k) "Rural health clinic" is as defined in 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1395x.
(2) There is created a restricted account within the General Fund known as the "Rural Health Care Facilities Account."
(3) (a) The restricted account shall be funded by amounts appropriated by the Legislature.
(b) Any interest earned on the restricted account shall be deposited into the General Fund.
(4) Subject to Subsections (5) and (6), the State Tax Commission shall for a fiscal year distribute money deposited into the restricted account to each:
(a) county legislative body of a county that, on January 1, 2007, imposes a tax in accordance with Section 59-12-802; or
(b) city legislative body of a city that, on January 1, 2007, imposes a tax in accordance with Section 59-12-804.
(5) (a) Subject to Subsection (6), for purposes of the distribution required by Subsection (4), the State Tax Commission shall:
(i) estimate for each county and city described in Subsection (4) the amount by which the revenues collected from the taxes imposed under Sections 59-12-802 and 59-12-804 for fiscal year 2005-06 would have been reduced had:
(A) the amendments made by Laws of Utah 2007, Chapter 288, Sections 25 and 26, to Sections 59-12-802 and 59-12-804 been in effect for fiscal year 2005-06; and
(B) each county and city described in Subsection (4) imposed the tax under Sections 59-12-802 and 59-12-804 for the entire fiscal year 2005-06;
(ii) calculate a percentage for each county and city described in Subsection (4) by dividing the amount estimated for each county and city in accordance with Subsection (5)(a)(i) by $555,000; and
(iii) distribute to each county and city described in Subsection (4) an amount equal to the product of:
(A) the percentage calculated in accordance with Subsection (5)(a)(ii); and
(B) the amount appropriated by the Legislature to the restricted account for the fiscal year.
(b) The State Tax Commission shall make the estimations, calculations, and distributions required by Subsection (5)(a) on the basis of data collected by the State Tax Commission.
(6) If a county legislative body repeals a tax imposed under Section 59-12-802 or a city legislative body repeals a tax imposed under Section 59-12-804:
(a) the commission shall determine in accordance with Subsection (5) the distribution that, but for this Subsection (6), the county legislative body or city legislative body would receive; and
(b) after making the determination required by Subsection (6)(a), the

commission shall:

(i) if the effective date of the repeal of a tax imposed under Section 59-12-802 or 59-12-804 is October 1:

(A) (I) distribute to the county legislative body or city legislative body 25% of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a); and

(II) deposit 75% of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a) into the General Fund; and

(B) beginning with the first fiscal year after the effective date of the repeal and for each subsequent fiscal year, deposit the entire amount of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a) into the General Fund;

(ii) if the effective date of the repeal of a tax imposed under Section 59-12-802 or 59-12-804 is January 1:

(A) (I) distribute to the county legislative body or city legislative body 50% of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a); and

(II) deposit 50% of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a) into the General Fund; and

(B) beginning with the first fiscal year after the effective date of the repeal and for each subsequent fiscal year, deposit the entire amount of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a) into the General Fund;

(iii) if the effective date of the repeal of a tax imposed under Section 59-12-802 or 59-12-804 is April 1:

(A) (I) distribute to the county legislative body or city legislative body 75% of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a); and

(II) deposit 25% of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a) into the General Fund; and

(B) beginning with the first fiscal year after the effective date of the repeal and for each subsequent fiscal year, deposit the entire amount of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a) into the General Fund; or

(iv) if the effective date of the repeal of a tax imposed under Section 59-12-802 or 59-12-804 is July 1, beginning on that effective date and for each subsequent fiscal year, deposit the entire amount of the distribution determined in accordance with Subsection (6)(a) into the General Fund.

(7) (a) Subject to Subsection (7)(b), a county legislative body shall distribute the money the county legislative body receives in accordance with Subsection (5) or (6):

(i) for a county of the third, fourth, or fifth class, to fund rural county health care facilities in that county; and

(ii) for a county of the sixth class, to fund:

(A) emergency medical services in that county;

(B) federally qualified health centers in that county;

(C) freestanding urgent care centers in that county;

(D) rural county health care facilities in that county;

(E) rural health clinics in that county; or

(F) a combination of Subsections (7)(a)(ii)(A) through (E).

(b) A county legislative body shall distribute a percentage of the money the county legislative body receives in accordance with Subsection (5) or (6) to each center, clinic, facility, or service described in Subsection (7)(a) equal to the same percentage

that the county legislative body distributes to that center, clinic, facility, or service in accordance with Section 59-12-803 for the calendar year ending on the December 31 immediately preceding the first day of the fiscal year for which the county legislative body receives the distribution in accordance with Subsection (5) or (6).

(c) A center, clinic, facility, or service that receives a distribution in accordance with this Subsection (7) shall expend that distribution for the same purposes for which money generated by a tax under Section 59-12-802 may be expended.

(8) (a) Subject to Subsection (8)(b), a city legislative body shall distribute the money the city legislative body receives in accordance with Subsection (5) or (6) to fund rural city hospitals in that city.

(b) A city legislative body shall distribute a percentage of the money the city legislative body receives in accordance with Subsection (5) or (6) to each rural city hospital described in Subsection (8)(a) equal to the same percentage that the city legislative body distributes to that rural city hospital in accordance with Section 59-12-805 for the calendar year ending on the December 31 immediately preceding the first day of the fiscal year for which the city legislative body receives the distribution in accordance with Subsection (5) or (6).

(c) A rural city hospital that receives a distribution in accordance with this Subsection (8) shall expend that distribution for the same purposes for which money generated by a tax under Section 59-12-804 may be expended.

(9) Any money remaining in the Rural Health Care Facilities Account at the end of a fiscal year after the State Tax Commission makes the distributions required by this section shall lapse into the General Fund.

Amended by Chapter 278, 2010 General Session

26-9-5. Rural County Health Care Special Service District Retirement Grant Program.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Participating employer" means an employer that was required to participate in the Utah State Retirement System under Section 49-12-201, 49-12-202, 49-13-201, or 49-13-202.

(b) "Retirement liability" means an obligation in excess of $750,000 owed to the Utah State Retirement Office by a rural county health care special service district as a participating employer.

(c) "Rural county health care special service district" means a special service district formed to provide health care in a third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class county as defined in Section 17-50-501.

(2) Because there is a compelling statewide public purpose in promoting health care in Utah's rural counties, and particularly in ensuring the continued existence and financial viability of hospital services provided by rural county health care special service districts, there is created a grant program to assist rural county health care special service districts in meeting a retirement liability.

(3) (a) Subject to legislative appropriation and this Subsection (3), the department shall make grants to rural county health care special service districts.

(b) To qualify for a grant, a rural county health care special service district shall:

(i) file a grant application with the department detailing:
(A) the name of the rural county health care special service district;
(B) the estimated total amount of the retirement liability;
(C) the grant amount that the rural county health care special service district is requesting; and
(D) the amount of matching funds to be provided by the rural county health care special service district to help fund the retirement liability as required by Subsection (3)(d); and
(ii) commit to provide matching funds as required by Subsection (3)(d).
(c) The department shall review each grant application and, subject to legislative appropriation, award grants to each rural health care special service district that qualifies for a grant under Subsection (3)(b).
(d) The department may not award a grant to a rural county health care special service district unless the rural county health care special service district commits to provide matching funds to the grant equal to at least 40% of the amount of the grant.

Enacted by Chapter 408, 2012 General Session

26-9f-101. Title.
This chapter is known as the "Utah Digital Health Service Commission Act."

Amended by Chapter 33, 2004 General Session

26-9f-102. Definitions.
As used in this chapter:
(1) "Commission" means the Utah Digital Health Service Commission created in Section 26-9f-103.
(2) "Digital health service" means the electronic transfer, exchange, or management of related data for diagnosis, treatment, consultation, educational, public health, or other related purposes.

Amended by Chapter 46, 2008 General Session

26-9f-103. Utah Digital Health Service Commission.
(1) There is created within the department the Utah Digital Health Service Commission.
(2) The governor shall appoint 12 members to the commission with the consent of the Senate, as follows:
(a) a physician who is involved in digital health service;
(b) a representative of a licensed health care facility or system as defined in Section 26-21-2;
(c) a representative of rural Utah, which may be a person nominated by an advisory committee on rural health issues created pursuant to Section 26-1-20;
(d) a member of the public who is not involved with digital health service;
(e) a nurse who is involved in digital health service; and
(f) seven members who fall into one or more of the following categories:

(i) individuals who use digital health service in a public or private institution;
(ii) individuals who use digital health service in serving medically underserved populations;
(iii) nonphysician health care providers involved in digital health service;
(iv) information technology professionals involved in digital health service;
(v) representatives of the health insurance industry; and
(vi) telehealth digital health service consumer advocates.
(3) (a) The commission shall annually elect a chairperson from its membership. The chairperson shall report to the executive director of the department.
(b) The commission shall hold meetings at least once every three months. Meetings may be held from time to time on the call of the chair or a majority of the board members.
(c) Six commission members are necessary to constitute a quorum at any meeting and, if a quorum exists, the action of a majority of members present shall be the action of the commission.
(4) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(b), a commission member shall be appointed for a three-year term and eligible for two reappointments.
(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (4)(a), the governor shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of commission members are staggered so that approximately 1/3 of the commission is appointed each year.
(c) A commission member shall continue in office until the expiration of the member's term and until a successor is appointed, which may not exceed 90 days after the formal expiration of the term.
(d) Notwithstanding Subsection (4)(c), a commission member who fails to attend 75% of the scheduled meetings in a calendar year shall be disqualified from serving.
(e) When a vacancy occurs in membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term.
(5) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but, at the executive director's discretion, may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
(a) Section 63A-3-106;
(b) Section 63A-3-107; and
(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
(6) The department shall provide informatics staff support to the commission.
(7) The funding of the commission shall be a separate line item to the department in the annual appropriations act.

Amended by Chapter 286, 2010 General Session

26-9f-104. Duties and responsibilities.
The commission shall:
(1) advise and make recommendations on digital health service issues to the department and other state entities;
(2) advise and make recommendations on digital health service related patient

privacy to the department;

(3) promote collaborative efforts to establish technical compatibility, uniform policies, and privacy features to meet legal, financial, commercial, and other societal requirements;

(4) identify, address, and seek to resolve the legal, ethical, regulatory, financial, medical, and technological issues that may serve as barriers to digital health service;

(5) explore and encourage the development of digital health service systems as a means of reducing health care costs and increasing health care quality and access, with emphasis on assisting rural health care providers and special populations with access to or development of electronic medical records;

(6) seek public input on digital health service issues; and

(7) in consultation with the department, advise the governor and Legislature on:

(a) the role of digital health service in the state;

(b) the policy issues related to digital health service;

(c) the changing digital health service needs and resources in the state; and

(d) state budgetary matters related to digital health service.

Amended by Chapter 46, 2008 General Session

26-10-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Maternal and child health services" means:

(a) the provision of educational, preventative, diagnostic, and treatment services, including medical care, hospitalization, and other institutional care and aftercare, appliances, and facilitating services directed toward reducing infant mortality and improving the health of mothers and children provided, however, that nothing in this Subsection (1) shall be construed to allow any agency of the state to interfere with the rights of the parent of an unmarried minor in decisions about the providing of health information or services;

(b) the development, strengthening, and improvement of standards and techniques relating to the services and care;

(c) the training of personnel engaged in the provision, development, strengthening, or improvement of the services and care; and

(d) necessary administrative services connected with Subsections (1)(a), (b), and (c).

(2) "Minor" means a person under the age of 18.

(3) "Services to children with disabilities" means:

(a) the early location of children with a disability, provided that any program of prenatal diagnosis for the purpose of detecting the possible disease or disabilities of an unborn child will not be used for screening, but rather will be utilized only when there are medical or genetic indications that warrant diagnosis;

(b) the provision for children described in Subsection (3)(a), of preventive, diagnosis, and treatment services, including medical care, hospitalization, and other institutional care and aftercare, appliances, and facilitating services directed toward the diagnosis of the condition of those children or toward the restoration of the children to maximum physical and mental health;

(c) the development, strengthening, and improvement of standards and techniques relating to services and care described in this Subsection (3);

(d) the training of personnel engaged in the provision, development, strengthening, or improvement of services and care described in this Subsection (3); and

(e) necessary administrative services connected with Subsections (3)(a), (b), and (c).

Amended by Chapter 147, 2011 General Session
Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session
Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session, (Coordination Clause)

26-10-2. Maternal and child health provided by department.

The department shall, as funding permits, provide for maternal and child health services and services for children with a disability if the individual needs the services and the individual cannot reasonably obtain the services from other sources.

Amended by Chapter 147, 2011 General Session
Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session, (Coordination Clause)
Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-10-2.5. Creation of fund -- Fund money -- Use for maternal and child nutrition program.

(1) (a) There is created an expendable special revenue fund known as the "Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Food Program Fund."

(b) As used in this section, "fund" means the fund created in this Subsection (1).

(2) All grant money of $450,000 received by the Division of Community and Family Health Services created in Title 26, Chapter 10, from infant formula companies, for the purpose of promoting the health of women, infants, and children by assuring they have opportunities for access to good nutrition, shall be deposited in this fund.

(3) Money in the fund may be used only:

(a) for the department's special supplemental food program for women, infants, and children; and

(b) upon joint agreement of the department and the State WIC Advisory Council established by the department.

(4) The fund shall be incorporated into the department WIC plan.

Amended by Chapter 400, 2013 General Session

26-10-3. Director of family health services programs.

The executive director may appoint a director of family health services programs who shall be a board certified pediatrician or obstetrician with at least two years experience in public health programs.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-10-4. State plan for maternal and child health services.

The department shall prepare and submit a state plan for maternal and child health services as required by Title II of the Public Health Services Act. The plan shall be the official state plan for the state and shall be used as the basis for administration of Title V programs within the state.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-10-5. Plan for school health services.

The department shall establish a plan for school health services for pupils in elementary and secondary schools. The department shall cooperate with the state office of education and local health departments in developing such plan and shall coordinate activities between these agencies. The plan may provide for the delivery of health services by and through intermediate and local school districts and local health departments.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-10-5.5. Child literacy -- Distribution of information kits.

(1) The Legislature recognizes that effective child literacy programs can have a dramatic long-term impact on each child's ability to:

(a) succeed in school;

(b) successfully compete in a global society; and

(c) become a productive, responsible citizen.

(2) (a) To help further this end, the department may make available to parents of new-born infants, as a resource, an information kit regarding child development, the development of emerging literacy skills, and activities which promote and enhance emerging literacy skills, including reading aloud to the child on a regular basis.

(b) The department shall seek private funding to help support this program.

(3) (a) The department may seek assistance from the State Office of Education and local hospitals in making the information kit available to parents on a voluntary basis.

(b) The department may also seek assistance from private entities in making the kits available to parents.

Enacted by Chapter 27, 1999 General Session

26-10-6. Testing of newborn infants.

(1) Except in the case where parents object on the grounds that they are members of a specified, well-recognized religious organization whose teachings are contrary to the tests required by this section, each newborn infant shall be tested for:

(a) phenylketonuria (PKU);

(b) other heritable disorders which may result in an intellectual or physical disability or death and for which:

(i) a preventive measure or treatment is available; and

(ii) there exists a reliable laboratory diagnostic test method;

(c) (i) an infant born in a hospital with 100 or more live births annually, hearing loss; and

(ii) an infant born in a setting other than a hospital with 100 or more live births annually, hearing loss; and

(d) beginning October 1, 2014, critical congenital heart defects using pulse oximetry.

(2) In accordance with Section 26-1-6, the department may charge fees for:

(a) materials supplied by the department to conduct tests required under Subsection (1);

(b) tests required under Subsection (1) conducted by the department;

(c) laboratory analyses by the department of tests conducted under Subsection (1); and

(d) the administrative cost of follow-up contacts with the parents or guardians of tested infants.

(3) Tests for hearing loss under Subsection (1) shall be based on one or more methods approved by the Newborn Hearing Screening Committee, including:

(a) auditory brainstem response;

(b) automated auditory brainstem response; and

(c) evoked otoacoustic emissions.

(4) Results of tests for hearing loss under Subsection (1) shall be reported to:

(a) parents when results of tests for hearing loss under Subsection (1) suggest that additional diagnostic procedures or medical interventions are necessary; and

(b) the department.

(5) (a) There is established the Newborn Hearing Screening Committee.

(b) The committee shall advise the department on:

(i) the validity and cost of newborn infant hearing loss testing procedures; and

(ii) rules promulgated by the department to implement this section.

(c) The committee shall be composed of at least 11 members appointed by the executive director, including:

(i) one representative of the health insurance industry;

(ii) one pediatrician;

(iii) one family practitioner;

(iv) one ear, nose, and throat specialist nominated by the Utah Medical Association;

(v) two audiologists nominated by the Utah Speech-Language-Hearing Association;

(vi) one representative of hospital neonatal nurseries;

(vii) one representative of the Early Intervention Baby Watch Program administered by the department;

(viii) one public health nurse;

(ix) one consumer; and

(x) the executive director or his designee.

(d) Of the initial members of the committee, the executive director shall appoint as nearly as possible half to two-year terms and half to four-year terms. Thereafter, appointments shall be for four-year terms except:

(i) for those members who have been appointed to complete an unexpired term;

and

(ii) as necessary to ensure that as nearly as possible the terms of half the appointments expire every two years.

(e) A majority of the members constitute a quorum and a vote of the majority of the members present constitutes an action of the committee.

(f) The committee shall appoint a chairman from its membership.

(g) The committee shall meet at least quarterly.

(h) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

(i) Section 63A-3-106;

(ii) Section 63A-3-107; and

(iii) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

(i) The department shall provide staff for the committee.

(6) Prior to implementing the test required by Subsection (1)(d), the department shall conduct a pilot program for testing newborns for critical congenital heart defects using pulse oximetry. The pilot program shall include the development of:

(a) appropriate oxygen saturation levels that would indicate a need for further medical follow-up; and

(b) the best methods for implementing the pulse oximetry screening in newborn care units.

Amended by Chapter 132, 2013 General Session

26-10-7. Dental health programs -- Appointment of director.

The department shall establish and promote programs to protect and improve the dental health of the public. The executive director shall appoint a director of the dental health program who shall be a dentist licensed in the state with at least one year of training in an accredited school of public health or not less than two years of experience in public health dentistry.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-10-8. Request for proposal required for non-state supplied services.

(1) Funds provided to the department through Sections 51-9-201 and 59-14-204 to be used to provide services, shall be awarded to non-governmental entities based on a competitive process consistent with Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code.

(2) Beginning July 1, 2010, and not more than every five years thereafter, the department shall issue requests for proposals for new or renewing contracts to award funding for programs under Subsection (1).

Amended by Chapter 347, 2012 General Session

26-10-9. Immunizations -- Consent of minor to treatment.

(1) This section:

(a) is not intended to interfere with the integrity of the family or to minimize the

rights of parents or children; and

(b) applies to a minor, who at the time care is sought is:

(i) married or has been married;

(ii) emancipated as provided for in Section 78A-6-805;

(iii) a parent with custody of a minor child; or

(iv) pregnant.

(2) (a) A minor described in Subsections (1)(b)(i) and (ii) may consent to:

(i) immunizations against epidemic infections and communicable diseases as defined in Section 26-6-2; and

(ii) examinations and immunizations required to attend school as provided in Title 53A, Chapter 11, Students in Public Schools.

(b) A minor described in Subsections (1)(b)(iii) and (iv) may consent to the immunizations described in Subsections (2)(a)(i) and (ii), and the vaccine for human papillomavirus only if:

(i) the minor represents to the health care provider that the minor is an abandoned minor as defined in Section 76-5-109; and

(ii) the health care provider makes a notation in the minor's chart that the minor represented to the health care provider that the minor is an abandoned minor under Section 76-5-109.

(c) Nothing in Subsection (2)(a) or (b) requires a health care provider to immunize a minor.

(3) The consent of the minor pursuant to this section:

(a) is not subject to later disaffirmance because of the minority of the person receiving the medical services;

(b) is not voidable because of minority at the time the medical services were provided;

(c) has the same legal effect upon the minor and the same legal obligations with regard to the giving of consent as consent given by a person of full age and capacity; and

(d) does not require the consent of any other person or persons to authorize the medical services described in Subsections (2)(a) and (b).

(4) A health care provider who provides medical services to a minor in accordance with the provisions of this section is not subject to civil or criminal liability for providing the services described in Subsections (2)(a) and (b) without obtaining the consent of another person prior to rendering the medical services.

(5) This section does not remove the requirement for parental consent or notice when required by Section 76-7-304 or 76-7-304.5.

(6) The parents, parent, or legal guardian of a minor who receives medical services pursuant to Subsections (2)(a) and (b) are not liable for the payment for those services unless the parents, parent, or legal guardian consented to the medical services.

Enacted by Chapter 147, 2011 General Session

26-10-10. Cytomegalovirus (CMV) public education and testing.

(1) As used in this section "CMV" means cytomegalovirus.

(2) The department shall establish and conduct a public education program to inform pregnant women and women who may become pregnant regarding:

(a) the incidence of CMV;

(b) the transmission of CMV to pregnant women and women who may become pregnant;

(c) birth defects caused by congenital CMV;

(d) methods of diagnosing congenital CMV; and

(e) available preventative measures.

(2) The department shall provide the information described in Subsection (2) to:

(a) child care programs licensed under Title 26, Chapter 39, Utah Child Care Licensing Act, and their employees;

(b) a person described in Subsection 26-39-403(1) (c), (f), (g), (h), (j), or (k);

(c) a person serving as a school nurse under Subsection 53A-11-204;

(d) a person offering health education in a school district;

(e) health care providers offering care to pregnant women and infants; and

(f) religious, ecclesiastical, or denominational organizations offering children's programs as a part of worship services.

(3) If a newborn infant fails the newborn hearing screening test(s) under Subsection 26-10-6(1), a medical practitioner shall:

(a) test the newborn infant for CMV before the newborn is 21 days of age, unless a parent of the newborn infant objects; and

(b) provide to the parents of the newborn infant information regarding:

(i) birth defects caused by congenital CMV; and

(ii) available methods of treatment.

(4) The department shall provide to the family and the medical practitioner, if known, information regarding the testing requirements under Subsection (3) when providing results indicating that an infant has failed the newborn hearing screening test(s) under Subsection 26-10-6(1).

(5) The department may make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, as necessary to administer the provisions of this section.

Enacted by Chapter 45, 2013 General Session

26-10-11. Children's Hearing Aid Pilot Program.

(1) (a) There is established a pilot program to provide hearing aids to children younger than three years old with hearing loss.

(b) The department shall administer the program beginning on July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2015.

(2) The department shall provide hearing aids to a child who:

(a) is a resident of Utah;

(b) has been diagnosed by an audiologist with pediatric expertise as having hearing loss;

(c) provides documentation from an audiologist with pediatric expertise certifying that the child needs hearing aids;

(d) has obtained medical clearance by a medical provider for hearing aid fitting;

(e) is younger than three years old;

(f) does not qualify to receive a hearing aid through the state's Medicaid program or Utah Children's Health Insurance Program; and

(g) meets the financial need qualification criteria established by the department for participation in the pilot program.

(3) (a) There is established the Children's Hearing Aid Advisory Committee.

(b) The committee shall be composed of five members appointed by the executive director, and shall include:

(i) one audiologist with pediatric expertise;

(ii) one speech language pathologist;

(iii) one teacher, certified under Title 53A, State System of Public Education, as a teacher of the deaf or a listening and spoken language therapist;

(iv) one ear, nose, and throat specialist; and

(v) one parent who has a child older than three years old with hearing loss.

(c) A majority of the members constitutes a quorum.

(d) A vote of the majority of the members, with a quorum present, constitutes an action of the committee.

(e) The committee shall elect a chair from its members.

(f) The committee shall:

(i) meet at least quarterly;

(ii) recommend to the department medical criteria and procedures for selecting children who may qualify for assistance from the account; and

(iii) review rules developed by the department.

(g) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107 and rules made by the Division of Finance, pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

(h) The department shall provide staff to the committee.

(4) (a) There is created within the General Fund a restricted account known as the "Children's Hearing Aid Pilot Program Restricted Account."

(b) The Children's Hearing Aid Pilot Program Restricted Account shall consist of:

(i) amounts appropriated to the account by the Legislature; and

(ii) gifts, grants, devises, donations, and bequests of real property, personal property, or services, from any source, or any other conveyance that may be made to the account from private sources.

(c) Upon appropriation, all actual and necessary operating expenses for the committee under Subsection (3) shall be paid by the account.

(d) Upon appropriation, no more than 9% of the account money may be used for administrative or other expenses of the department.

(e) If this account is repealed in accordance with Section 63I-1-226, any remaining assets in the account shall be deposited into the General Fund.

(5) The department shall make rules establishing a process to:

(a) identify the children who are financially eligible to receive services under the pilot program; and

(b) review and pay for services provided to a child under the pilot program.

(6) The department shall make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3,

Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, regarding implementation of the pilot program created under this section.

(7) The services provided under the pilot program created by this section:

(a) do not constitute a legal right or an entitlement of any kind; and

(b) may be withdrawn from a person at any time without notice and without cause.

(8) (a) The department shall make midterm and final reports to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee.

(b) The midterm and final reports shall identify the operation and accomplishments of the pilot program described in this section.

(c) The final report shall:

(i) recommend whether the Legislature should convert the pilot program to an ongoing program within the department; and

(ii) recommend statutory changes, if any, relating to the program.

(9) The Health and Human Services Interim Committee shall:

(a) determine whether the pilot program described in this section should be converted to an ongoing program within the department; and

(b) if the Health and Human Services Interim Committee determines that the pilot program should be converted to an ongoing program, prepare legislation to implement that conversion.

Enacted by Chapter 195, 2013 General Session

26-10b-101. Definitions.

As used in this part:

(1) "Community based organization":

(a) means a private entity; and

(b) includes for profit and not for profit entities.

(2) "Cultural competence" means a set of congruent behaviors, attitudes, and policies that come together in a system, agency, or profession and enables that system, agency, or profession to work effectively in cross-cultural situations.

(3) "Health literacy" means the degree to which an individual has the capacity to obtain, process, and understand health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.

(4) "Institutional capacity" means the ability of a community based organization to implement public and private contracts.

(5) "Medically underserved population" means the population of an urban or rural area or a population group designated by the department as having a shortage of primary health care services.

(6) "Primary health care" means:

(a) basic and general health care services given when a person seeks assistance to screen for or to prevent illness and disease, or for simple and common illnesses and injuries; and

(b) care given for the management of chronic diseases.

(7) "Primary health care services" include:

(a) services of physicians, nurses, physician's assistants, and dentists licensed

to practice in this state under Title 58, Occupations and Professions;
(b) diagnostic and radiologic services;
(c) preventive health services including perinatal services, well-child services, and other services that seek to prevent disease or its consequences;
(d) emergency medical services;
(e) preventive dental services; and
(f) pharmaceutical services.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 340, 2010 General Session

26-10b-102. Department to award grants and contracts -- Applications.

(1) (a) Within appropriations specified by the Legislature for this purpose, the department may make grants to public and nonprofit entities for the cost of operation of providing primary health care services to medically underserved populations.
(b) The department may, as funding permits, contract with community based organizations for the purpose of developing culturally and linguistically appropriate programs and services for low income and medically underserved populations through a pilot program to accomplish one or more of the following:
(i) to educate individuals:
(A) to use private and public health care coverage programs, products, services, and resources in a timely, effective, and responsible manner;
(B) to make prudent use of private and public health care resources;
(C) to pursue preventive health care, health screenings, and disease management; and
(D) to locate health care programs and services;
(ii) to assist individuals to develop:
(A) personal health management;
(B) self-sufficiency in daily care; and
(C) life and disease management skills;
(iii) to support translation of health materials and information;
(iv) to facilitate an individual's access to primary care services and providers, including mental health services; and
(v) to measure and report empirical results of the pilot project.
(2) (a) Grants by the department shall be awarded based on:
(i) applications submitted to the department in the manner and form prescribed by the department; and
(ii) the criteria established in Section 26-10b-103.
(b) The application for a grant under Subsection (2)(a) shall contain:
(i) a requested award amount;
(ii) a budget; and
(iii) a narrative plan of the manner in which the applicant intends to provide the primary health care services described in Subsection 26-10b-101(7).
(c) A contract bid for a service under Subsection (1)(b):
(i) shall be awarded in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code;
(ii) shall include the information described in Section 26-10b-103; and

(iii) is subject to Subsection (3).

(3) (a) An applicant under this chapter shall demonstrate to the department that the applicant will not deny services to a person because of the person's inability to pay for the services.

(b) Subsection (3)(a) does not preclude an applicant from seeking payment from the person receiving services, a third party, or a government agency if:

(i) the applicant is authorized to charge for the services; and

(ii) the person, third party, or government agency is under legal obligation to pay the charges.

(4) The department shall maximize the use of federal matching funds received for services under Subsection (1)(b) to fund additional contracts under Subsection (1)(b).

Amended by Chapter 347, 2012 General Session

26-10b-103. Content of applications.

Applications for grants under this chapter shall include:

(1) a statement of specific, measurable objectives, and the methods to be used to assess the achievement of those objectives;

(2) the precise boundaries of the area to be served by the entity making the application, including a description of the medically underserved population to be served by the grant;

(3) the results of an assessment of need demonstrating that the population to be served has a need for the services provided by the applicant;

(4) a description of the personnel responsible for carrying out the activities of the grant along with a statement justifying the use of any grant funds for the personnel;

(5) letters and other forms of evidence showing that efforts have been made to secure financial and professional assistance and support for the services to be provided under the grant;

(6) a list of services to be provided by the applicant;

(7) the schedule of fees to be charged by the applicant;

(8) the estimated number of medically underserved persons to be served with the grant award; and

(9) other provisions as determined by the department.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 340, 2010 General Session

26-10b-104. Process and criteria for awarding grants and contracts.

(1) The department shall establish rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, governing the application form, process, and criteria it will use in awarding grants and contracts under this chapter.

(2) When awarding a primary care grant under Subsection 26-10b-102(1)(a), the department shall consider the extent to which the applicant:

(a) demonstrates that the area or a population group to be served under the application has a shortage of primary health care and that the services will be located so that they will provide assistance to the greatest number of persons residing in the

area or included in the population group;

(b) utilizes other sources of funding, including private funding, to provide primary health care;

(c) demonstrates the ability and expertise to serve traditionally medically underserved populations including persons of limited English-speaking ability, single heads of households, the elderly, persons with low incomes, and persons with chronic diseases;

(d) demonstrates that it will assume financial risk for a specified number of medically underserved persons within its catchment area for a predetermined level of care on a prepaid capitation basis; and

(e) meets other criteria determined by the department.

(3) When awarding a contract for community based services under Subsection 26-10b-102(1)(b), the department shall:

(a) consider the extent to which the applicant:

(i) demonstrates that the area or a population group to be served under the application is a medically underserved area or population and that the services will be located so that they will provide assistance to the greatest number of persons residing in the area or included in the population group;

(ii) utilizes other sources of funding, including private funding, to provide the services described in Subsection 26-10b-102(1)(b);

(iii) demonstrates the ability and expertise to serve traditionally medically underserved populations including persons of limited English-speaking ability, single heads of households, the elderly, persons with low incomes, and persons with chronic diseases;

(iv) meets other criteria determined by the department; and

(v) demonstrates the ability to empirically measure and report the results of all contract supported activities;

(b) consider the extent to which the contract increases the applicant's institutional capacity;

(c) consult with the state's:

(i) Medicaid program;

(ii) Children's Health Insurance Program; and

(iii) other assistance programs within the Department of Workforce Services and the Department of Human Services; and

(d) as funding permits, implement the community based service contract as a pilot program for which the department shall enter into contracts for services as follows:

(i) two contracts in the amount of $50,000 each to be awarded to experienced and established applicants; and

(ii) three contracts in the amount of $30,000 each to be awarded to applicants that:

(A) are not as established or experienced as the applicants under Subsection (3)(d)(i); or

(B) represent smaller community based approaches than the applicants described in Subsection (3)(d)(i).

(4) Once a contract has been awarded under Subsection (3), the department shall provide technical assistance to the contractee to familiarize the contractee with

public and private resources available to support wellness, health promotion, and disease management.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 340, 2010 General Session

26-15-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) (a) "Food handler" means any person working part-time or full-time in a food service establishment who moves food or food containers, prepares, stores, or serves food; comes in contact with any food, utensil, tableware or equipment; or washes the same. The term also includes owners, supervisors, and management persons, and any other person working in a food-service establishment. The term also includes any operator or person employed by one who handles food dispensed through vending machines; or who comes into contact with food contact surfaces or containers, equipment, utensils, or packaging materials used in connection with vending machine operations; or who otherwise services or maintains one or more vending machines.

(b) "Food handler" does not include a producer of food products selling food at a farmers market as defined in Subsection 4-5-2(5).

(2) "Pest" means a noxious, destructive, or troublesome organism whether plant or animal, when found in and around places of human occupancy, habitation, or use which threatens the public health or well being of the people within the state.

(3) "Vector" means any organism, such as insects or rodents, that transmits a pathogen that can affect public health.

Amended by Chapter 146, 2007 General Session

26-15-2. Minimum rules of sanitation established by department.

The department shall establish and enforce, or provide for the enforcement of minimum rules of sanitation necessary to protect the public health. Such rules shall include, but not be limited to, rules necessary for the design, construction, operation, maintenance, or expansion of:

(1) restaurants and all places where food or drink is handled, sold or served to the public;

(2) public swimming pools;

(3) public baths including saunas, spas, massage parlors, and suntan parlors;

(4) public bathing beaches;

(5) schools which are publicly or privately owned or operated;

(6) recreational resorts, camps, and vehicle parks;

(7) amusement parks and all other centers and places used for public gatherings;

(8) mobile home parks and highway rest stops;

(9) construction or labor camps;

(10) jails, prisons and other places of incarceration or confinement;

(11) hotels and motels;

(12) lodging houses and boarding houses;

(13) service stations;

(14) barbershops and beauty shops;
(15) physician and dentist offices;
(16) public buildings and grounds;
(17) public conveyances and terminals; and
(18) commercial tanning facilities.

Amended by Chapter 25, 2007 General Session

26-15-3. Department to advise regarding the plumbing code.

(1) The department shall advise the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing and the Uniform Building Code Commission with respect to the adoption of a state construction code under Section 15A-1-204, including providing recommendations as to:

(a) a specific edition of a plumbing code issued by a nationally recognized code authority; and

(b) any amendments to a nationally recognized code.

(2) The department may enforce the plumbing code adopted under Section 15A-1-204.

(3) Section 58-56-9 does not apply to health inspectors acting under this section.

Amended by Chapter 14, 2011 General Session

26-15-4. Rules for wastewater disposal systems.

The department shall establish rules necessary to protect the public health for the design, and construction, operation and maintenance of individual wastewater disposal systems.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-15-5. Requirements for food handlers -- Training program and testing requirements for permit -- Rulemaking.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Approved food handler training program" means a training program described by this section and approved by the department.

(b) "Food handler" means a person who works with unpackaged food, food equipment or utensils, or food-contact surfaces for a food service establishment.

(c) "Food handler permit" means a permit issued by a local health department to allow a person to work as a food handler.

(d) "Food service establishment" has the same meaning as provided in Section 26-15a-102.

(e) "Provider" means a person or entity that provides an approved food handler training program.

(2) A person may not work as a food handler for a food service establishment unless the person:

(a) successfully completes an approved food handler training program within 14

days after the day on which the person begins employment that includes food handler services; and

(b) obtains a food handler permit within 30 days after the day on which the person begins employment that includes food handler services.

(3) An approved food handler training program shall include:

(a) at least 75 minutes of training time;

(b) an exam, which requires a passing score of 75% and, except as provided in Subsection (11), consists of:

(i) 40 multiple-choice questions developed by the department, in consultation with local health departments; and

(ii) four content sections designated by rule of the department with 10 randomly selected questions for each content section; and

(c) upon completion, the awarding of a certificate of completion that is valid with any local health department in the state for 30 days after the day on which the certificate is issued:

(i) to a student who:

(A) completes the training; and

(B) passes the exam described in this Subsection (3) or an exam approved by the department in accordance with Subsection (11); and

(ii) which certificate of completion:

(A) includes student identifying information determined by department rule; and

(B) is delivered by mail or electronic means.

(4) (a) A person may obtain a food handler permit by:

(i) providing a valid certificate of completion of an approved food handler training program and an application, approved by the local health department, to a local health department; and

(ii) paying a food handler permit fee to the local health department.

(b) (i) A local health department may charge a food handler permit fee that is reasonable and that reflects the cost of managing the food safety program.

(ii) The department shall establish by rule the maximum amount a local health department may charge for the fee described in Subsection (4)(b)(i).

(5) A person working as a food handler for a food service establishment shall obtain a food handler permit:

(a) before handling any food;

(b) within 30 days of initial employment with a food service establishment; and

(c) within seven days of the expiration of an existing food handler permit.

(6) (a) A person who holds a valid food handler permit under this section may serve as a food handler throughout the state without restriction.

(b) A food handler permit granted after June 30, 2013, is valid for three years from the date of issuance.

(7) A person may not serve as an instructor of an approved food handler training program, unless the person is registered with a local health department as an instructor.

(8) The department, in consultation with local health departments, shall:

(a) approve the content of an approved food handler training program required under Subsection (3);

(b) approve, as qualified, each provider; and

(c) in accordance with applicable rules made under Subsection (12), provide a means to authenticate:

(i) documents used in an approved food handler training program;

(ii) the identity of an approved instructor; and

(iii) an approved provider.

(9) An approved food handler training program shall:

(a) provide basic instruction on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's top five foodborne illness risk factors, including:

(i) improper hot and cold holding temperatures of potentially hazardous food;

(ii) improper cooking temperatures of food;

(iii) dirty or contaminated utensils and equipment;

(iv) poor employee health and hygiene; and

(v) food from unsafe sources;

(b) be offered through:

(i) a trainer-led class;

(ii) the Internet; or

(iii) a combination of a trainer-led class and the Internet;

(c) maintain a system to verify a certificate of completion of an approved food handler training program issued under Subsection (3) to the department, a local health department, and a food service establishment; and

(d) provide to the department unrestricted access to classroom training sessions and online course materials at any time for audit purposes.

(10) (a) A provider that provides an approved food handler training program may charge a reasonable fee.

(b) If a person or an entity is not approved by the department to provide an approved food handler training program, the person or entity may not represent, in connection with the person's or entity's name or business, including in advertising, that the person or entity is a provider of an approved food handler training program or otherwise represent that a program offered by the person or entity will qualify an individual to work as a food handler in the state.

(11) (a) Subject to the approval of the department every three years, a provider may use an exam that consists of questions that do not conform with the provisions of Subsection (3)(b), if:

(i) the provider complies with the provisions of this Subsection (11);

(ii) the provider pays a fee every three years to the department, which fee shall be determined by the department and shall reflect the cost of the review of the alternative test questions; and

(iii) an independent instructional design and testing expert provides a written report to the department containing a positive recommendation based on the expert's analysis as described in Subsection 11(b).

(b) (i) A provider may request approval of a different bank of test questions other than the questions developed under Subsection (3) by submitting to the department a proposed bank of at least 200 test questions organized by learning objective in accordance with Subsection (9)(a).

(ii) A provider proposing a different bank of test questions under this Subsection (11) shall contract with an independent instructional design and testing expert approved

by the department at the provider's expense to analyze the provider's bank of test questions to ensure the questions:

(A) effectively measure the applicant's knowledge of the required learning objectives; and

(B) meet the appropriate testing standards for question structure.

(c) If the department provides written notice to a provider that any test question of the provider's approved exam under this Subsection (11) inadequately tests the required learning objectives, the provider shall make required changes to the question within 30 days after the day on which written notice is received by the provider.

(d) A food handler exam offered by a provider may be:

(i) a written exam;

(ii) an online exam; or

(iii) an oral exam, if circumstances require, including when an applicant's language or reading abilities interfere with taking a written or online exam.

(e) A provider shall routinely rotate test questions from the test question bank, change the order of test questions in tests, and change the order of multiple-choice answers in test questions to discourage cheating.

(12) (a) When exercising rulemaking authority under this section the department shall comply with the requirements of Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(b) The department shall, by rule, establish requirements designed to inhibit fraud for an approved food handler training program described in this section.

(c) The requirements described in Subsection (12)(b) may include requirements to ensure that:

(i) an individual does not attempt to complete the program or exam in another individual's place;

(ii) an individual taking the approved food handler training program is focused on training material and actively engaged throughout the training period;

(iii) if the individual is unable to participate online because of technical difficulties, an approved food handler training program provides technical support, such as requiring a telephone number, email, or other method of communication to allow an individual taking the online course or test to receive assistance;

(iv) an approved food handler training program provider maintains a system to reduce fraud as to who completes an approved food handler training program, such as requiring a distinct online certificate with information printed on the certificate that identifies a person taking an online course or exam, or requiring measures to inhibit duplication of a certificate of completion or of a food handler permit;

(v) the department may audit an approved food handler training program;

(vi) an individual taking an online course or certification exam has the opportunity to provide an evaluation of the online course or test;

(vii) an approved food handler training program provider track the Internet protocol address or similar electronic location of an individual who takes an online course or certification exam;

(viii) an individual who takes an online course or exam uses an electronic signature; or

(ix) if the approved food handler training program provider learns that a

certificate of completion does not accurately reflect the identity of the individual who took the online course or certification exam, an approved food handler training program provider invalidates the certificate of completion.

Repealed and Re-enacted by Chapter 444, 2013 General Session

26-15-7. Rules for controlling vector-borne diseases and pests.

The department shall adopt rules to provide for the protection of the public health by controlling or preventing the spread of vector-borne diseases and infections and to control or reduce pests by the elimination of insanitary conditions which may include but not be limited to breeding areas, shelter, harborage or sources of food associated with such diseases or pests.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-15-8. Periodic evaluation of local health sanitation programs -- Minimum statewide enforcement standards -- Technical assistance.

(1) The department shall periodically evaluate the sanitation programs of local health departments to determine the levels of sanitation being maintained throughout the state.

(2) (a) The department shall ensure that each local health department's enforcement of the minimum rules of sanitation adopted under Section 26-15-2 for restaurants and other places where food or drink is handled meets or exceeds minimum statewide enforcement standards established by the department by administrative rule.

(b) Administrative rules adopted under Subsection (2)(a) shall include at least:

(i) the minimum number of periodic on-site inspections that shall be conducted by each local health department;

(ii) criteria for conducting additional inspections; and

(iii) standardized methods to be used by local health departments to assess compliance with the minimum rules of sanitation adopted under Section 26-15-2.

(c) The department shall help local health departments comply with the minimum statewide enforcement standards adopted under this Subsection (2) by providing technical assistance.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-15-9. Impoundment of adulterated food products authorized.

The department and local health departments may impound any food products found in places where food or drink is handled, sold, or served to the public that is intended for but found to be adulterated and unfit for human consumption; and, upon five days notice and reasonable opportunity for a hearing to the interested parties, to condemn and destroy the same if deemed necessary for the protection of the public health.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-15-11. Statutes on smoking considered public health laws.

Title 26, Chapter 38, Utah Indoor Clean Air Act, is a public health law and shall be enforced by the department and local health departments.

Amended by Chapter 281, 1994 General Session

26-15-12. Rules to implement statutes on smoking.

The department shall adopt rules necessary and reasonable to implement the provisions of Title 26, Chapter 38, Utah Indoor Clean Air Act.

Amended by Chapter 281, 1994 General Session

26-15-13. Regulation of tanning facilities.

(1) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Minor" means a person under 18 years of age.

(b) "Phototherapy device" means equipment that emits ultraviolet radiation used by a health care professional in the treatment of disease.

(c) (i) "Tanning device" means equipment to which a tanning facility provides access that emits electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths in the air between 200 and 400 nanometers used for tanning of the skin, including:

(A) a sunlamp; and

(B) a tanning booth or bed.

(ii) "Tanning device" does not include a phototherapy device.

(d) "Tanning facility" means a commercial location, place, area, structure, or business that provides access to a tanning device.

(2) A tanning facility shall:

(a) annually obtain a permit to do business as a tanning facility from the local health department with jurisdiction over the location in which the facility is located; and

(b) in accordance with Subsection (3) post a warning sign in a conspicuous location that is readily visible to a person about to use a tanning device.

(3) The posted warning and written consent required by Subsections (2) and (5) shall be developed by the department through administrative rules and shall include:

(a) that there are health risks associated with the use of a tanning device;

(b) that the facility may not allow a minor to use a tanning device unless the minor:

(i) has a written order from a physician; or

(ii) at each time of use is accompanied at the tanning facility by a parent or legal guardian who provides written consent authorizing the minor to use the tanning device.

(4) It is unlawful for any operator of a tanning facility to allow a minor to use a tanning device unless:

(a) the minor has a written order from a physician as defined in Section 58-67-102, to use a tanning device as a medical treatment; or

(b) (i) the minor's parent or legal guardian appears in person at the tanning facility each time that the minor uses a tanning device, except that the minor's parent or legal guardian is not required to remain at the facility for the duration of the use; and

(ii) the minor's parent or legal guardian signs the consent form required in

Subsection (5).

(5) The written consent required by Subsection (4) shall be signed and dated each time the minor uses a tanning device at the facility, and shall include at least:

(a) information concerning the health risks associated with the use of a tanning device; and

(b) a statement that:

(i) the parent or legal guardian of the minor has read and understood the warnings given by the tanning facility, and consents to the minor's use of a tanning device; and

(ii) the parent or legal guardian agrees that the minor will use protective eye wear.

(6) The department shall adopt administrative rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, specifying:

(a) minimum requirements a tanning facility shall satisfy to obtain a permit under Subsection (2);

(b) the written information concerning health risks a facility should include in the posted signs required by Subsection (3) and in the consent form required by Subsection (5);

(c) procedures a tanning facility shall implement to ensure a minor and the minor's parent or legal guardian comply with Subsections (4) and (5), including use of a statewide uniform form:

(i) for a parent or legal guardian to certify and give consent under Subsection (5); and

(ii) that clearly identifies the department's seal or other means to indicate that the form is an official form of the department; and

(d) the size, placement, and content of the sign a tanning facility must post under Subsection (2).

(7) (a) A violation of this section:

(i) is a class C misdemeanor; and

(ii) may result in the revocation of a permit to do business as a tanning facility.

(b) If a person misrepresents to a tanning facility that the person is 18 years of age or older, the person is guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

(8) This section supercedes any ordinance enacted by the governing body of a political subdivision that:

(a) imposes restrictions on access to a tanning device by a person younger than age 18 that is not essentially identical to the provisions of this section; or

(b) that require the posting of warning signs at the tanning facility that are not essentially identical to the provisions of this section.

Amended by Chapter 409, 2012 General Session

26-15a-101. Title.

This chapter shall be known as the "Food Safety Manager Certification Act."

Enacted by Chapter 345, 1998 General Session

26-15a-102. Definitions.

(1) "Back country food service establishment" means a federal or state licensed back country guiding or outfitting business that:

(a) provides food services; and

(b) meets department recognized federal or state food service safety regulations for food handlers.

(2) "Certified food safety manager" means a manager of a food service establishment who:

(a) passes successfully a department-approved examination;

(b) successfully completes, every three years, renewal requirements established by department rule consistent with original certification requirements; and

(c) submits to the appropriate local health department the documentation required by Section 26-15a-106.

(3) "Food service establishment" means any place or area within a business or organization where potentially hazardous foods are prepared and intended for individual portion service and consumption by the general public, whether the consumption is on or off the premises, and whether or not a fee is charged for the food.

(4) "Local health department" means a local health department as defined in Subsection 26A-1-102(5).

(5) "Potentially hazardous foods" shall be defined by the department by administrative rule adopted in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-15a-103. Duties.

In connection with this chapter:

(1) the department shall:

(a) establish, by rule:

(i) statewide, uniform standards for certified food safety managers;

(ii) criteria for food safety certification examinations; and

(iii) other provisions necessary to implement this chapter; and

(b) approve food safety certification examinations; and

(2) the local health department shall enforce the provisions of this chapter.

Enacted by Chapter 345, 1998 General Session

26-15a-104. Food service establishment requirements -- Enforcement -- Right of appeal.

(1) Each food service establishment in the state shall be managed by at least one full-time certified food safety manager at each establishment site, who need not be present at the establishment site during all its hours of operation.

(2) Within 60 days of the termination of a certified food safety manager's employment that results in the food service establishment no longer being in compliance with Subsection (1), the food service establishment shall:

(a) employ a new certified food safety manager; or

(b) designate another employee to become the establishment's certified food safety manager who shall commence a department-approved food safety manager training course.

(3) Compliance with the 60-day time period provided in Subsection (2) may be extended by the local health department for reasonable cause, as determined by the department by rule.

(4) (a) The local health department may determine whether a food service establishment is in compliance with this section by visiting the establishment during regular business hours and requesting information and documentation about the employment of a certified food safety manager.

(b) If a violation of this section is identified, the local health department shall propose remedial action to bring the food service establishment into compliance.

(c) A food service establishment receiving notice of a violation and proposed remedial action from a local health department may appeal the notice of violation and proposed remedial action pursuant to procedures established by the local health department, which shall be essentially consistent with the provisions of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 63G-4-402, an appeal of a local health department decision to a district court shall be conducted as an original, independent proceeding, and not as a review of the proceedings conducted by the local health department. The district court shall give no deference to the findings or conclusions of the local health department.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-15a-105. Exemptions to food service establishment requirements.

(1) The following are not subject to the provisions of Section 26-15a-104:

(a) special events sponsored by municipal or nonprofit civic organizations, including food booths at school sporting events and little league athletic events and church functions;

(b) temporary event food services approved by a local health department;

(c) vendors and other food service establishments that serve only commercially prepackaged foods and beverages as defined by the department by rule;

(d) private homes not used as a commercial food service establishment;

(e) health care facilities licensed under Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act;

(f) bed and breakfast establishments at which the only meal served is a continental breakfast as defined by the department by rule;

(g) residential child care providers;

(h) child care providers and programs licensed under Chapter 39, Utah Child Care Licensing Act;

(i) back country food service establishments; and

(j) a lowest risk or permitted food establishment category determined by a risk assessment evaluation established by the department by administrative rule adopted in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(2) Nothing in this section may be construed as exempting a food service establishment described in Subsection (1) from any other applicable food safety laws of

this state.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-15a-106. Certified food safety manager.

(1) Before a person may manage a food service establishment as a certified food safety manager, that person shall submit documentation in the format prescribed by the department to the appropriate local health department indicating a passing score on a department-approved examination.

(2) To continue to manage a food service establishment, a certified food safety manager shall:

(a) successfully complete, every three years, renewal requirements established by department rule which are consistent with original certification requirements; and

(b) submit documentation in the format prescribed by the department within 30 days of the completion of renewal requirements to the appropriate local health department.

(3) A local health department may deny, revoke, or suspend the authority of a certified food safety manager to manage a food service establishment or require the completion of additional food safety training courses for any one of the following reasons:

(a) submitting information required under Subsection (1) or (2) that is false, incomplete, or misleading;

(b) repeated violations of department or local health department food safety rules; or

(c) operating a food service establishment in a way that causes or creates a health hazard or otherwise threatens the public health, safety, or welfare.

(4) A determination of a local health department made pursuant to Subsection (3) may be appealed by a certified food safety manager in the same manner provided for in Subsection 26-15a-104(4).

(5) No person may use the title "certified food safety manager," or any other similar title, unless the person has satisfied the requirements of this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 86, 2000 General Session

26-15a-107. Duties.

Certified food safety managers shall:

(1) establish and monitor compliance with practices and procedures in the food service establishments where they are employed to maintain compliance with department and local health department food safety rules; and

(2) perform such other duties that may be necessary to ensure food safety in the food service establishments where they are employed.

Enacted by Chapter 345, 1998 General Session

26-18-1. Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Medical Assistance Act."

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-18-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Applicant" means any person who requests assistance under the medical programs of the state.

(2) "Client" means a person who the department has determined to be eligible for assistance under the Medicaid program or the Utah Medical Assistance Program established under Section 26-18-10.

(3) "Division" means the Division of Health Care Financing within the department, established under Section 26-18-2.1.

(4) "Medicaid program" means the state program for medical assistance for persons who are eligible under the state plan adopted pursuant to Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act.

(5) "Medical or hospital assistance" means services furnished or payments made to or on behalf of recipients of medical or hospital assistance under state medical programs.

(6) (a) "Passenger vehicle" means a self-propelled, two-axle vehicle intended primarily for operation on highways and used by an applicant or recipient to meet basic transportation needs and has a fair market value below 40% of the applicable amount of the federal luxury passenger automobile tax established in 26 U.S.C. Sec. 4001 and adjusted annually for inflation.

(b) "Passenger vehicle" does not include:

(i) a commercial vehicle, as defined in Section 41-1a-102;

(ii) an off-highway vehicle, as defined in Section 41-1a-102; or

(iii) a motor home, as defined in Section 13-14-102.

(7) "Recipient" means a person who has received medical or hospital assistance under the Medicaid program or the Utah Medical Assistance Program established under Section 26-18-10.

Amended by Chapter 1, 2000 General Session

26-18-2.1. Division -- Creation.

There is created, within the department, the Division of Health Care Financing which shall be responsible for implementing, organizing, and maintaining the Medicaid program and the Utah Medical Assistance Program established in Section 26-18-10, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and applicable federal law.

Enacted by Chapter 21, 1988 General Session

26-18-2.2. Director -- Appointment -- Responsibilities.

The director of the division shall be appointed by the governor, after consultation with the executive director, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The director of the division may employ other employees as necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter, and shall:

(1) administer the responsibilities of the division as set forth in this chapter;
(2) prepare and administer the division's budget; and
(3) establish and maintain a state plan for the Medicaid program in compliance with federal law and regulations.

Amended by Chapter 267, 2011 General Session

26-18-2.3. Division responsibilities -- Emphasis -- Periodic assessment.

(1) In accordance with the requirements of Title XIX of the Social Security Act and applicable federal regulations, the division is responsible for the effective and impartial administration of this chapter in an efficient, economical manner. The division shall:

(a) establish, on a statewide basis, a program to safeguard against unnecessary or inappropriate use of Medicaid services, excessive payments, and unnecessary or inappropriate hospital admissions or lengths of stay;

(b) deny any provider claim for services that fail to meet criteria established by the division concerning medical necessity or appropriateness; and

(c) place its emphasis on high quality care to recipients in the most economical and cost-effective manner possible, with regard to both publicly and privately provided services.

(2) The division shall implement and utilize cost-containment methods, where possible, which may include:

(a) prepayment and postpayment review systems to determine if utilization is reasonable and necessary;

(b) preadmission certification of nonemergency admissions;

(c) mandatory outpatient, rather than inpatient, surgery in appropriate cases;

(d) second surgical opinions;

(e) procedures for encouraging the use of outpatient services;

(f) consistent with Sections 26-18-2.4 and 58-17b-606, a Medicaid drug program;

(g) coordination of benefits; and

(h) review and exclusion of providers who are not cost effective or who have abused the Medicaid program, in accordance with the procedures and provisions of federal law and regulation.

(3) The director of the division shall periodically assess the cost effectiveness and health implications of the existing Medicaid program, and consider alternative approaches to the provision of covered health and medical services through the Medicaid program, in order to reduce unnecessary or unreasonable utilization.

(4) The department shall ensure Medicaid program integrity by conducting internal audits of the Medicaid program for efficiencies, best practices, fraud, waste, abuse, and cost recovery.

(5) The department shall, by December 31 of each year, report to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee regarding:

(a) measures taken under this section to increase:

(i) efficiencies within the program; and

(ii) cost avoidance and cost recovery efforts in the program; and

(b) results of program integrity efforts under Subsection (4).

Amended by Chapter 242, 2012 General Session

26-18-2.4. Medicaid drug program -- Preferred drug list.

(1) A Medicaid drug program developed by the department under Subsection 26-18-2.3 (2)(f):

(a) shall, notwithstanding Subsection 26-18-2.3(1)(b), be based on clinical and cost-related factors which include medical necessity as determined by a provider in accordance with administrative rules established by the Drug Utilization Review Board;

(b) may include therapeutic categories of drugs that may be exempted from the drug program;

(c) may include placing some drugs, except the drugs described in Subsection (2), on a preferred drug list to the extent determined appropriate by the department;

(d) notwithstanding the requirements of Part 2, Drug Utilization Review Board, shall immediately implement the prior authorization requirements for a nonpreferred drug that is in the same therapeutic class as a drug that is:

(i) on the preferred drug list on the date that this act takes effect; or

(ii) added to the preferred drug list after this act takes effect; and

(e) except as prohibited by Subsections 58-17b-606(4) and (5), shall establish the prior authorization requirements established under Subsections (1)(c) and (d) which shall permit a health care provider or the health care provider's agent to obtain a prior authorization override of the preferred drug list through the department's pharmacy prior authorization review process, and which shall:

(i) provide either telephone or fax approval or denial of the request within 24 hours of the receipt of a request that is submitted during normal business hours of Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

(ii) provide for the dispensing of a limited supply of a requested drug as determined appropriate by the department in an emergency situation, if the request for an override is received outside of the department's normal business hours; and

(iii) require the health care provider to provide the department with documentation of the medical need for the preferred drug list override in accordance with criteria established by the department in consultation with the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

(2) (a) For purposes of this Subsection (2):

(i) "Immunosuppressive drug":

(A) means a drug that is used in immunosuppressive therapy to inhibit or prevent activity of the immune system to aid the body in preventing the rejection of transplanted organs and tissue; and

(B) does not include drugs used for the treatment of autoimmune disease or diseases that are most likely of autoimmune origin.

(ii) "Psychotropic drug" means the following classes of drugs: atypical anti-psychotic, anti-depressants, anti-convulsant/mood stabilizer, anti-anxiety, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder stimulants, or sedative/hypnotics.

(iii) "Stabilized" means a health care provider has documented in the patient's medical chart that a patient has achieved a stable or steadfast medical state within the

past 90 days using a particular psychotropic drug.

(b) A preferred drug list developed under the provisions of this section may not include:

(i) except as provided in Subsection (2)(e), a psychotropic or anti-psychotic drug; or

(ii) an immunosuppressive drug.

(c) The state Medicaid program shall reimburse for a prescription for an immunosuppressive drug as written by the health care provider for a patient who has undergone an organ transplant. For purposes of Subsection 58-17b-606(4), and with respect to patients who have undergone an organ transplant, the prescription for a particular immunosuppressive drug as written by a health care provider meets the criteria of demonstrating to the Department of Health a medical necessity for dispensing the prescribed immunosuppressive drug.

(d) Notwithstanding the requirements of Part 2, Drug Utilization Review Board, the state Medicaid drug program may not require the use of step therapy for immunosuppressive drugs without the written or oral consent of the health care provider and the patient.

(e) The department may include a sedative hypnotic on a preferred drug list in accordance with Subsection (2)(f).

(f) The department shall grant a prior authorization for a sedative hypnotic that is not on the preferred drug list under Subsection (2)(e), if the health care provider has documentation related to one of the following conditions for the Medicaid client:

(i) a trial and failure of at least one preferred agent in the drug class, including the name of the preferred drug that was tried, the length of therapy, and the reason for the discontinuation;

(ii) detailed evidence of a potential drug interaction between current medication and the preferred drug;

(iii) detailed evidence of a condition or contraindication that prevents the use of the preferred drug;

(iv) objective clinical evidence that a patient is at high risk of adverse events due to a therapeutic interchange with a preferred drug;

(v) the patient is a new or previous Medicaid client with an existing diagnosis previously stabilized with a nonpreferred drug; or

(vi) other valid reasons as determined by the department.

(g) A prior authorization granted under Subsection (2)(f) is valid for one year from the date the department grants the prior authorization and shall be renewed in accordance with Subsection (2)(f).

(3) The department shall report to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee and to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee prior to November 1, 2013, regarding the savings to the Medicaid program resulting from the use of the preferred drug list permitted by Subsection (1).

Amended by Chapter 242, 2012 General Session
Amended by Chapter 343, 2012 General Session

26-18-2.5. Simplified enrollment and renewal process for Medicaid and

other state medical programs -- Financial institutions.

(1) The department may:

(a) apply for grants and accept donations to:

(i) make technology system improvements necessary to implement a simplified enrollment and renewal process for the Medicaid program, Utah Premium Partnership, and Primary Care Network Demonstration Project programs; and

(ii) conduct an actuarial analysis of the implementation of a basic health care plan in the state in 2014 to provide coverage options to individuals from 133% to 200% of the federal poverty level; and

(b) if funding is available:

(i) implement the simplified enrollment and renewal process in accordance with this section; and

(ii) conduct the actuarial analysis described in Subsection (1)(a)(ii).

(2) The simplified enrollment and renewal process established in this section shall, in accordance with Section 59-1-403, provide an eligibility worker a process in which the eligibility worker:

(a) verifies the applicant's or enrollee's identity;

(b) gets consent to obtain the applicant's adjusted gross income from the State Tax Commission from:

(i) the applicant or enrollee, if the applicant or enrollee filed a single tax return; or

(ii) both parties to a joint return, if the applicant filed a joint tax return; and

(c) obtains from the State Tax Commission, the adjusted gross income of the applicant or enrollee.

(3) (a) The department may enter into an agreement with a financial institution doing business in the state to develop and operate a data match system to identify an applicant's or enrollee's assets that:

(i) uses automated data exchanges to the maximum extent feasible; and

(ii) requires a financial institution each month to provide the name, record address, Social Security number, other taxpayer identification number, or other identifying information for each applicant or enrollee who maintains an account at the financial institution.

(b) The department may pay a reasonable fee to a financial institution for compliance with this Subsection (3), as provided in Section 7-1-1006.

(c) A financial institution may not be liable under any federal or state law to any person for any disclosure of information or action taken in good faith under this Subsection (3).

(d) The department may disclose a financial record obtained from a financial institution under this section only for the purpose of, and to the extent necessary in, verifying eligibility as provided in this section and Section 26-40-105.

Amended by Chapter 279, 2012 General Session

26-18-2.6. Dental benefits.

(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (8), the division shall establish a competitive bid process to bid out Medicaid dental benefits under this chapter.

(b) The division may bid out the Medicaid dental benefits separately from other program benefits.

(2) The division shall use the following criteria to evaluate dental bids:

(a) ability to manage dental expenses;

(b) proven ability to handle dental insurance;

(c) efficiency of claim paying procedures;

(d) provider contracting, discounts, and adequacy of network; and

(e) other criteria established by the department.

(3) The division shall request bids for the program's benefits:

(a) in 2011; and

(b) at least once every five years thereafter.

(4) The division's contract with dental plans for the program's benefits shall include risk sharing provisions in which the dental plan must accept 100% of the risk for any difference between the division's premium payments per client and actual dental expenditures.

(5) The division may not award contracts to:

(a) more than three responsive bidders under this section; or

(b) an insurer that does not have a current license in the state.

(6) (a) The division may cancel the request for proposals if:

(i) there are no responsive bidders; or

(ii) the division determines that accepting the bids would increase the program's costs.

(b) If the division cancels the request for proposals under Subsection (6)(a), the division shall report to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee regarding the reasons for the decision.

(7) Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code, shall apply to this section.

(8) (a) The division may:

(i) establish a dental health care delivery system and payment reform pilot program for Medicaid dental benefits to increase access to cost effective and quality dental health care by increasing the number of dentists available for Medicaid dental services; and

(ii) target specific Medicaid populations or geographic areas in the state.

(b) The pilot program shall establish compensation models for dentists and dental hygienists that:

(i) increase access to quality, cost effective dental care; and

(ii) use funds from the Division of Family Health and Preparedness that are available to reimburse dentists for educational loans in exchange for the dentist agreeing to serve Medicaid and under-served populations.

(c) The division may amend the state plan and apply to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for waivers or pilot programs if necessary to establish the new dental care delivery and payment reform model. The division shall evaluate the pilot program's effect on the cost of dental care and access to dental care for the targeted Medicaid populations. The division shall report to the Legislature's Health and Human Services Interim Committee by November 30th of each year that the pilot project is in effect.

Amended by Chapter 278, 2013 General Session
Amended by Chapter 278, 2013 General Session

26-18-3. Administration of Medicaid program by department -- Reporting to the Legislature -- Disciplinary measures and sanctions -- Funds collected -- Eligibility standards -- Internal audits -- Studies -- Health opportunity accounts.

(1) The department shall be the single state agency responsible for the administration of the Medicaid program in connection with the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

(2) (a) The department shall implement the Medicaid program through administrative rules in conformity with this chapter, Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the requirements of Title XIX, and applicable federal regulations.

(b) The rules adopted under Subsection (2)(a) shall include, in addition to other rules necessary to implement the program:

(i) the standards used by the department for determining eligibility for Medicaid services;

(ii) the services and benefits to be covered by the Medicaid program;

(iii) reimbursement methodologies for providers under the Medicaid program; and

(iv) a requirement that:

(A) a person receiving Medicaid services shall participate in the electronic exchange of clinical health records established in accordance with Section 26-1-37 unless the individual opts out of participation;

(B) prior to enrollment in the electronic exchange of clinical health records the enrollee shall receive notice of enrollment in the electronic exchange of clinical health records and the right to opt out of participation at any time; and

(C) beginning July 1, 2012, when the program sends enrollment or renewal information to the enrollee and when the enrollee logs onto the program's website, the enrollee shall receive notice of the right to opt out of the electronic exchange of clinical health records.

(3) (a) The department shall, in accordance with Subsection (3)(b), report to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee when the department:

(i) implements a change in the Medicaid State Plan;

(ii) initiates a new Medicaid waiver;

(iii) initiates an amendment to an existing Medicaid waiver;

(iv) applies for an extension of an application for a waiver or an existing Medicaid waiver; or

(v) initiates a rate change that requires public notice under state or federal law.

(b) The report required by Subsection (3)(a) shall:

(i) be submitted to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee prior to the department implementing the proposed change; and

(ii) include:

(A) a description of the department's current practice or policy that the department is proposing to change;

(B) an explanation of why the department is proposing the change;

(C) the proposed change in services or reimbursement, including a description of the effect of the change;

(D) the effect of an increase or decrease in services or benefits on individuals and families;

(E) the degree to which any proposed cut may result in cost-shifting to more expensive services in health or human service programs; and

(F) the fiscal impact of the proposed change, including:

(I) the effect of the proposed change on current or future appropriations from the Legislature to the department;

(II) the effect the proposed change may have on federal matching dollars received by the state Medicaid program;

(III) any cost shifting or cost savings within the department's budget that may result from the proposed change; and

(IV) identification of the funds that will be used for the proposed change, including any transfer of funds within the department's budget.

(4) Any rules adopted by the department under Subsection (2) are subject to review and reauthorization by the Legislature in accordance with Section 63G-3-502.

(5) The department may, in its discretion, contract with the Department of Human Services or other qualified agencies for services in connection with the administration of the Medicaid program, including:

(a) the determination of the eligibility of individuals for the program;

(b) recovery of overpayments; and

(c) consistent with Section 26-20-13, and to the extent permitted by law and quality control services, enforcement of fraud and abuse laws.

(6) The department shall provide, by rule, disciplinary measures and sanctions for Medicaid providers who fail to comply with the rules and procedures of the program, provided that sanctions imposed administratively may not extend beyond:

(a) termination from the program;

(b) recovery of claim reimbursements incorrectly paid; and

(c) those specified in Section 1919 of Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act.

(7) Funds collected as a result of a sanction imposed under Section 1919 of Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act shall be deposited in the General Fund as dedicated credits to be used by the division in accordance with the requirements of Section 1919 of Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act.

(8) (a) In determining whether an applicant or recipient is eligible for a service or benefit under this part or Chapter 40, Utah Children's Health Insurance Act, the department shall, if Subsection (8)(b) is satisfied, exclude from consideration one passenger vehicle designated by the applicant or recipient.

(b) Before Subsection (8)(a) may be applied:

(i) the federal government shall:

(A) determine that Subsection (8)(a) may be implemented within the state's existing public assistance-related waivers as of January 1, 1999;

(B) extend a waiver to the state permitting the implementation of Subsection (8)(a); or

(C) determine that the state's waivers that permit dual eligibility determinations

for cash assistance and Medicaid are no longer valid; and

(ii) the department shall determine that Subsection (8)(a) can be implemented within existing funding.

(9) (a) For purposes of this Subsection (9):

(i) "aged, blind, or has a disability" means an aged, blind, or disabled individual, as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1382c(a)(1); and

(ii) "spend down" means an amount of income in excess of the allowable income standard that shall be paid in cash to the department or incurred through the medical services not paid by Medicaid.

(b) In determining whether an applicant or recipient who is aged, blind, or has a disability is eligible for a service or benefit under this chapter, the department shall use 100% of the federal poverty level as:

(i) the allowable income standard for eligibility for services or benefits; and

(ii) the allowable income standard for eligibility as a result of spend down.

(10) The department shall conduct internal audits of the Medicaid program.

(11) In order to determine the feasibility of contracting for direct Medicaid providers for primary care services, the department shall:

(a) issue a request for information for direct contracting for primary services that shall provide that a provider shall exclusively serve all Medicaid clients:

(i) in a geographic area;

(ii) for a defined range of primary care services; and

(iii) for a predetermined total contracted amount; and

(b) by February 1, 2011, report to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee on the response to the request for information under Subsection (11)(a).

(12) (a) By December 31, 2010, the department shall:

(i) determine the feasibility of implementing a three year patient-centered medical home demonstration project in an area of the state using existing budget funds; and

(ii) report the department's findings and recommendations under Subsection (12)(a)(i) to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee.

(b) If the department determines that the medical home demonstration project described in Subsection (12)(a) is feasible, and the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee recommends that the demonstration project be implemented, the department shall:

(i) implement the demonstration project; and

(ii) by December 1, 2012, make recommendations to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee regarding the:

(A) continuation of the demonstration project;

(B) expansion of the demonstration project to other areas of the state; and

(C) cost savings incurred by the implementation of the demonstration project.

(13) (a) The department may apply for and, if approved, implement a demonstration program for health opportunity accounts, as provided for in 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1396u-8.

(b) A health opportunity account established under Subsection (13)(a) shall be an alternative to the existing benefits received by an individual eligible to receive Medicaid under this chapter.

(c) Subsection (13)(a) is not intended to expand the coverage of the Medicaid program.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-18-3.1. Medicaid expansion.

(1) The purpose of this section is to expand the coverage of the Medicaid program to persons who are in categories traditionally not served by that program.

(2) Within appropriations from the Legislature, the department may amend the state plan for medical assistance to provide for eligibility for Medicaid:

(a) on or after July 1, 1994, for children 12 to 17 years old who live in households below the federal poverty income guideline; and

(b) on or after July 1, 1995, for persons who have incomes below the federal poverty income guideline and who are aged, blind, or have a disability.

(3) (a) Within appropriations from the Legislature, on or after July 1, 1996, the Medicaid program may provide for eligibility for persons who have incomes below the federal poverty income guideline.

(b) In order to meet the provisions of this subsection, the department may seek approval for a demonstration project under 42 U.S.C. Section 1315 from the secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. This demonstration project may also provide for the voluntary participation of private firms that:

(i) are newly established or marginally profitable;

(ii) do not provide health insurance to their employees;

(iii) employ predominantly low wage workers; and

(iv) are unable to obtain adequate and affordable health care insurance in the private market.

(4) Services available for persons described in this section shall include required Medicaid services and may include one or more optional Medicaid services if those services are funded by the Legislature. The department may also require persons described in this section to meet an asset test.

Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-18-3.2. Release of financial information.

(1) (a) Upon request from a hospital, or a designated agent of a hospital, a bank or other financial institution shall provide the hospital, or the designated agent of the hospital, financial records of a patient upon the receipt of a notarized document that includes the following patient information:

(i) name;

(ii) address;

(iii) Social Security number; and

(iv) patient permission to release the information required by this Subsection (1) to the bank or financial institution.

(b) The document required by this Subsection (1) shall be signed by the patient and acknowledged by a notary public.

(2) A hospital, or a designated agent of the hospital, may only request the

information required under Subsection (1), if the hospital or the agent of the hospital:

(a) determines that the patient has no ability to pay; and

(b) has received adequate documentation from the patient, such as a valid driver license or passport, to verify the identity of the patient.

Enacted by Chapter 347, 2010 General Session

26-18-3.5. Copayments by recipients -- Employer sponsored plans.

(1) The department shall selectively provide for enrollment fees, premiums, deductions, cost sharing or other similar charges to be paid by recipients, their spouses, and parents, within the limitations of federal law and regulation.

(2) (a) The department shall seek approval under the department's Section 1115 Medicaid waiver to cap enrollment fees for the Primary Care Network Demonstration Project in accordance with Subsection (2)(b).

(b) Pursuant to a waiver obtained under Subsection (2)(a), the department shall cap enrollment fees for the primary care network at $15 per year for those persons who, after July 1, 2003, are eligible to begin receiving General Assistance under Section 35A-3-401.

(c) Beginning July 1, 2004, and pursuant to a waiver obtained under Subsection (2)(a), the department shall cap enrollment fees for the primary care network at $25 per year for those persons who have an income level that is below 50% of the federal poverty level.

(3) Beginning May 1, 2006, within appropriations by the Legislature and as a means to increase health care coverage among the uninsured, the department shall take steps to promote increased participation in employer sponsored health insurance, including:

(a) maximizing the health insurance premium subsidy provided under the state's Primary Care Network Demonstration Project by:

(i) ensuring that state funds are matched by federal funds to the greatest extent allowable; and

(ii) as the department determines appropriate, seeking federal approval to do one or more of the following:

(A) eliminate or otherwise modify the annual enrollment fee;

(B) eliminate or otherwise modify the schedule used to determine the level of subsidy provided to an enrollee each year;

(C) reduce the maximum number of participants allowable under the subsidy program; or

(D) otherwise modify the program in a manner that promotes enrollment in employer sponsored health insurance; and

(b) exploring the use of other options, including the development of a waiver under the Medicaid Health Insurance Flexibility Demonstration Initiative or other federal authority.

Amended by Chapter 148, 2006 General Session

26-18-3.6. Income and resources from institutionalized spouses.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Community spouse" means the spouse of an institutionalized spouse.

(b) (i) "Community spouse monthly income allowance" means an amount by which the minimum monthly maintenance needs allowance for the spouse exceeds the amount of monthly income otherwise available to the community spouse, determined without regard to the allowance, except as provided in Subsection (1)(b)(ii).

(ii) If a court has entered an order against an institutionalized spouse for monthly income for the support of the community spouse, the community spouse monthly income allowance for the spouse may not be less than the amount of the monthly income so ordered.

(c) "Community spouse resource allowance" is an amount by which the greatest of the following exceeds the amount of the resources otherwise available to the community spouse:

(i) $15,804;

(ii) the lesser of the spousal share computed under Subsection (4) or $76,740;

(iii) the amount established in a hearing held under Subsection (11); or

(iv) the amount transferred by court order under Subsection (11)(c).

(d) "Excess shelter allowance" for a community spouse means the amount by which the sum of the spouse's expense for rent or mortgage payment, taxes, and insurance, and in the case of condominium or cooperative, required maintenance charge, for the community spouse's principal residence and the spouse's actual expenses for electricity, natural gas, and water utilities or, at the discretion of the department, the federal standard utility allowance under SNAP as defined in Section 35A-1-102, exceeds 30% of the amount described in Subsection (9).

(e) "Family member" means a minor dependent child, dependent parents, or dependent sibling of the institutionalized spouse or community spouse who are residing with the community spouse.

(f) (i) "Institutionalized spouse" means a person who is residing in a nursing facility and is married to a spouse who is not in a nursing facility.

(ii) An "institutionalized spouse" does not include a person who is not likely to reside in a nursing facility for at least 30 consecutive days.

(g) "Nursing care facility" is defined in Section 26-21-2.

(2) The division shall comply with this section when determining eligibility for medical assistance for an institutionalized spouse.

(3) For services furnished during a calendar year beginning on or after January 1, 1999, the dollar amounts specified in Subsections (1)(c)(i), (1)(c)(ii), and (10)(b) shall be increased by the division by the amount as determined annually by the federal Health Care Financing Administration.

(4) The division shall compute, as of the beginning of the first continuous period of institutionalization of the institutionalized spouse:

(a) the total value of the resources to the extent either the institutionalized spouse or the community spouse has an ownership interest; and

(b) a spousal share, which is 1/2 of the resources described in Subsection (4)(a).

(5) At the request of an institutionalized spouse or a community spouse, at the beginning of the first continuous period of institutionalization of the institutionalized

spouse and upon the receipt of relevant documentation of resources, the division shall promptly assess and document the total value described in Subsection (4)(a) and shall provide a copy of that assessment and documentation to each spouse and shall retain a copy of the assessment. When the division provides a copy of the assessment, it shall include a notice stating that the spouse may request a hearing under Subsection (11).

(6) When determining eligibility for medical assistance under this chapter:

(a) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), all the resources held by either the institutionalized spouse, community spouse, or both, are considered to be available to the institutionalized spouse.

(b) Resources are considered to be available to the institutionalized spouse only to the extent that the amount of those resources exceeds the amounts specified in Subsections (1)(c)(i) through (iv) at the time of application for medical assistance under this chapter.

(7) The division may not find an institutionalized spouse to be ineligible for medical assistance by reason of resources determined under Subsection (5) to be available for the cost of care when:

(a) the institutionalized spouse has assigned to the state any rights to support from the community spouse;

(b) (i) except as provided in Subsection (7)(b)(ii), the institutionalized spouse lacks the ability to execute an assignment due to physical or mental impairment;

(ii) Subsection (7)(b)(i) does not prevent the division from seeking a court order seeking an assignment of support; or

(c) the division determines that denial of medical assistance would cause an undue burden.

(8) During the continuous period in which an institutionalized spouse is in an institution and after the month in which an institutionalized spouse is eligible for medical assistance, the resources of the community spouse may not be considered to be available to the institutionalized spouse.

(9) When an institutionalized spouse is determined to be eligible for medical assistance, in determining the amount of the spouse's income that is to be applied monthly for the cost of care in the nursing care facility, the division shall deduct from the spouse's monthly income the following amounts in the following order:

(a) a personal needs allowance, the amount of which is determined by the division;

(b) a community spouse monthly income allowance, but only to the extent that the income of the institutionalized spouse is made available to, or for the benefit of, the community spouse;

(c) a family allowance for each family member, equal to at least 1/3 of the amount that the amount described in Subsection (10)(a)(i) exceeds the amount of monthly income of that family member; and

(d) amounts for incurred expenses for the medical or remedial care for the institutionalized spouse.

(10) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (10)(b), the division shall establish a minimum monthly maintenance needs allowance for each community spouse which is not less than the sum of:

(i) 150% of the current poverty guideline for a two-person family unit that applies to this state as established by the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and

(ii) an excess shelter allowance.

(b) The amount provided in Subsection (10)(a) may not exceed $1,976, unless a court order establishes a higher amount.

(11) (a) An institutionalized spouse or a community spouse may request a hearing with respect to the determinations described in Subsections (11)(e)(i) through (v) if an application for medical assistance has been made on behalf of the institutionalized spouse.

(b) A hearing under this subsection regarding the community spouse resource allowance shall be held by the division within 90 days from the date of the request for the hearing.

(c) If either spouse establishes that the community spouse needs income, above the level otherwise provided by the minimum monthly maintenance needs allowance, due to exceptional circumstances resulting in significant financial duress, there shall be substituted, for the minimum monthly maintenance needs allowance provided under Subsection (10), an amount adequate to provide additional income as is necessary.

(d) If either spouse establishes that the community spouse resource allowance, in relation to the amount of income generated by the allowance is inadequate to raise the community spouse's income to the minimum monthly maintenance needs allowance, there shall be substituted, for the community spouse resource allowance, an amount adequate to provide a minimum monthly maintenance needs allowance.

(e) A hearing may be held under this subsection if either the institutionalized spouse or community spouse is dissatisfied with a determination of:

(i) the community spouse monthly income allowance;

(ii) the amount of monthly income otherwise available to the community spouse;

(iii) the computation of the spousal share of resources under Subsection (4);

(iv) the attribution of resources under Subsection (6); or

(v) the determination of the community spouse resource allocation.

(12) (a) An institutionalized spouse may transfer an amount equal to the community spouse resource allowance, but only to the extent the resources of the institutionalized spouse are transferred to or for the sole benefit of the community spouse.

(b) The transfer under Subsection (12)(a) shall be made as soon as practicable after the date of the initial determination of eligibility, taking into account the time necessary to obtain a court order under Subsection (12)(c).

(c) Chapter 19, Medical Benefits Recovery Act, does not apply if a court has entered an order against an institutionalized spouse for the support of the community spouse.

Amended by Chapter 41, 2012 General Session

26-18-3.8. Maximizing use of premium assistance programs -- Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance.

(1) (a) The department shall seek to maximize the use of Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program funds for assistance in the purchase of private health insurance coverage for Medicaid-eligible and non-Medicaid-eligible individuals.

(b) The department's efforts to expand the use of premium assistance shall:

(i) include, as necessary, seeking federal approval under all Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program premium assistance provisions of federal law, including provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148;

(ii) give priority to, but not be limited to, expanding the state's Utah Premium Partnership for Health Insurance Program, including as required under Subsection (2); and

(iii) encourage the enrollment of all individuals within a household in the same plan, where possible, including enrollment in a plan that allows individuals within the household transitioning out of Medicaid to retain the same network and benefits they had while enrolled in Medicaid.

(c) Any increase in state costs resulting from an expansion of premium assistance may not exceed offsetting reductions in Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program state costs attributable to the expansion.

(2) The department shall seek federal approval of an amendment to the state's Utah Premium Partnership for Health Insurance program to adjust the eligibility determination for single adults and parents who have an offer of employer sponsored insurance. The amendment shall:

(a) be within existing appropriations for the Utah Premium Partnership for Health Insurance program; and

(b) provide that adults who are up to 200% of the federal poverty level are eligible for premium subsidies in the Utah Premium Partnership for Health Insurance program.

Amended by Chapter 137, 2013 General Session

26-18-4. Department standards for eligibility under Medicaid -- Funds for abortions.

(1) The department may develop standards and administer policies relating to eligibility under the Medicaid program as long as they are consistent with Subsection 26-18-3(8). An applicant receiving Medicaid assistance may be limited to particular types of care or services or to payment of part or all costs of care determined to be medically necessary.

(2) The department may not provide any funds for medical, hospital, or other medical expenditures or medical services to otherwise eligible persons where the purpose of the assistance is to perform an abortion, unless the life of the mother would be endangered if an abortion were not performed.

(3) Any employee of the department who authorizes payment for an abortion contrary to the provisions of this section is guilty of a class B misdemeanor and subject to forfeiture of office.

(4) Any person or organization that, under the guise of other medical treatment, provides an abortion under auspices of the Medicaid program is guilty of a third degree

felony and subject to forfeiture of license to practice medicine or authority to provide medical services and treatment.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-18-5. Contracts for provision of medical services -- Federal provisions modifying department rules -- Compliance with Social Security Act.

(1) The department may contract with other public or private agencies to purchase or provide medical services in connection with the programs of the division. Where these programs are used by other state agencies, contracts shall provide that other state agencies transfer the state matching funds to the department in amounts sufficient to satisfy needs of the specified program.

(2) All contracts for the provision or purchase of medical services shall be established on the basis of the state's fiscal year and shall remain uniform during the fiscal year insofar as possible. Contract terms shall include provisions for maintenance, administration, and service costs.

(3) If a federal legislative or executive provision requires modifications or revisions in an eligibility factor established under this chapter as a condition for participation in medical assistance, the department may modify or change its rules as necessary to qualify for participation; providing, the provisions of this section do not apply to department rules governing abortion.

(4) The department shall comply with all pertinent requirements of the Social Security Act and all orders, rules, and regulations adopted thereunder when required as a condition of participation in benefits under the Social Security Act.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-18-6. Federal aid -- Authority of executive director.

The executive director, with the approval of the governor, may bind the state to any executive or legislative provisions promulgated or enacted by the federal government which invite the state to participate in the distribution, disbursement or administration of any fund or service advanced, offered or contributed in whole or in part by the federal government for purposes consistent with the powers and duties of the department. Such funds shall be used as provided in this chapter and be administered by the department for purposes related to medical assistance programs.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-18-7. Medical vendor rates.

Medical vendor payments made to providers of services for and in behalf of recipient households shall be based upon predetermined rates from standards developed by the division in cooperation with providers of services for each type of service purchased by the division. As far as possible, the rates paid for services shall be established in advance of the fiscal year for which funds are to be requested.

Amended by Chapter 21, 1988 General Session

26-18-8. Enforcement of public assistance statutes.

(1) The department shall enforce or contract for the enforcement of Sections 35A-1-503, 35A-3-108, 35A-3-110, 35A-3-111, 35A-3-112, and 35A-3-603 insofar as these sections pertain to benefits conferred or administered by the division under this chapter.

(2) The department may contract for services covered in Section 35A-3-111 insofar as that section pertains to benefits conferred or administered by the division under this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 90, 2003 General Session

26-18-9. Prohibited acts of state or local employees of Medicaid program -- Violation a misdemeanor.

Each state or local employee responsible for the expenditure of funds under the state Medicaid program, each individual who formerly was such an officer or employee, and each partner of such an officer or employee is prohibited for a period of one year after termination of such responsibility from committing any act, the commission of which by an officer or employee of the United States Government, an individual who was such an officer or employee, or a partner of such an officer or employee is prohibited by Section 207 or Section 208 of Title 18, United States Code. Violation of this section is a class A misdemeanor.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-18-10. Utah Medical Assistance Program -- Policies and standards.

(1) The division shall develop a medical assistance program, which shall be known as the Utah Medical Assistance Program, for low income persons who are not eligible under the state plan for Medicaid under Title XIX of the Social Security Act or Medicare under Title XVIII of that act.

(2) Persons in the custody of prisons, jails, halfway houses, and other nonmedical government institutions are not eligible for services provided under this section.

(3) The department shall develop standards and administer policies relating to eligibility requirements, consistent with Subsection 26-18-3(8), for participation in the program, and for payment of medical claims for eligible persons.

(4) The program shall be a payor of last resort. Before assistance is rendered the division shall investigate the availability of the resources of the spouse, father, mother, and adult children of the person making application.

(5) The department shall determine what medically necessary care or services are covered under the program, including duration of care, and method of payment, which may be partial or in full.

(6) The department may not provide public assistance for medical, hospital, or other medical expenditures or medical services to otherwise eligible persons where the purpose of the assistance is for the performance of an abortion, unless the life of the mother would be endangered if an abortion were not performed.

(7) The department may establish rules to carry out the provisions of this

section.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-18-11. Rural hospitals.

(1) For purposes of this section "rural hospital" means a hospital located outside of a standard metropolitan statistical area, as designated by the United States Bureau of the Census.

(2) For purposes of the Medicaid program and the Utah Medical Assistance Program, the Division of Health Care Financing may not discriminate among rural hospitals on the basis of size.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-18-13. Telemedicine -- Reimbursement -- Rulemaking.

(1) (a) On or after July 1, 2008, communication by telemedicine is considered face to face contact between a health care provider and a patient under the state's medical assistance program if:

(i) the communication by telemedicine meets the requirements of administrative rules adopted in accordance with Subsection (3); and

(ii) the health care services are eligible for reimbursement under the state's medical assistance program.

(b) This Subsection (1) applies to any managed care organization that contracts with the state's medical assistance program.

(2) The reimbursement rate for telemedicine services approved under this section:

(a) shall be subject to reimbursement policies set by the state plan; and

(b) may be based on:

(i) a monthly reimbursement rate;

(ii) a daily reimbursement rate; or

(iii) an encounter rate.

(3) The department shall adopt administrative rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, which establish:

(a) the particular telemedicine services that are considered face to face encounters for reimbursement purposes under the state's medical assistance program; and

(b) the reimbursement methodology for the telemedicine services designated under Subsection (3)(a).

Enacted by Chapter 41, 2008 General Session

26-18-14. Strategic plan for health system reform -- Medicaid program.

The department, including the Division of Health Care Financing within the department, shall:

(1) work with the Governor's Office of Economic Development, the Insurance Department, the Department of Workforce Services, and the Legislature to develop

health system reform in accordance with the strategic plan described in Title 63M, Chapter 1, Part 25, Health System Reform Act;

(2) develop and submit amendments and waivers for the state's Medicaid plan as necessary to carry out the provisions of the Health System Reform Act;

(3) seek federal approval of an amendment to Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance that would allow the state's Medicaid program to subsidize the purchase of health insurance by an individual who does not have access to employer sponsored health insurance;

(4) in coordination with the Department of Workforce Services:

(a) establish a Children's Health Insurance Program eligibility policy, consistent with federal requirements and Subsection 26-40-105(1)(d), that prohibits enrollment of a child in the program if the child's parent qualifies for assistance under Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance; and

(b) involve community partners, insurance agents and producers, community based service organizations, and the education community to increase enrollment of eligible employees and individuals in Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance and the Children's Health Insurance Program; and

(5) as funding permits, and in coordination with the department's adoption of standards for the electronic exchange of clinical health data, help the private sector form an alliance of employers, hospitals and other health care providers, patients, and health insurers to develop and use evidence-based health care quality measures for the purpose of improving health care decision making by health care providers, consumers, and third party payers.

Enacted by Chapter 383, 2008 General Session

26-18-15. Process to promote health insurance coverage for children.

(1) The Department of Workforce Services, the State Board of Education, and the department shall:

(a) collaborate with one another to develop a process to promote health insurance coverage for a child in school when:

(i) the child applies for free or reduced price school lunch;

(ii) a child enrolls in or registers in school; and

(iii) other appropriate school related opportunities;

(b) report to the Legislature on the development of the process under Subsection (1)(a) no later than November 19, 2008; and

(c) implement the process developed under Subsection (1)(a) no later than the 2009-10 school year.

(2) The Department of Workforce Services shall promote and facilitate the enrollment of children identified under Subsection (1)(a) without health insurance in the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program, the Medicaid program, or the Utah Premium Partnership for Health Insurance Program.

Enacted by Chapter 390, 2008 General Session

26-18-16. Medicaid -- Continuous eligibility -- Promoting payment and

delivery reform.

(1) In accordance with Subsection (2), and within appropriations from the Legislature, the department may amend the state Medicaid plan to:

(a) create continuous eligibility for up to 12 months for an individual who has qualified for the state Medicaid program;

(b) provide incentives in managed care contracts for an individual to obtain appropriate care in appropriate settings; and

(c) require the managed care system to accept the risk of managing the Medicaid population assigned to the plan amendment in return for receiving the benefits of providing quality and cost effective care.

(2) If the department amends the state Medicaid plan under Subsection (1)(a) or (b), the department:

(a) shall ensure that the plan amendment:

(i) is cost effective for the state Medicaid program;

(ii) increases the quality and continuity of care for recipients; and

(iii) calculates and transfers administrative savings from continuous enrollment from the Department of Workforce Services to the Department of Health; and

(b) may limit the plan amendment under Subsection (1)(a) or (b) to select geographic areas or specific Medicaid populations.

(3) The department may seek approval for a state plan amendment, waiver, or a demonstration project from the Secretary of Health and Human Services if necessary to implement a plan amendment under Subsection (1)(a) or (b).

Enacted by Chapter 155, 2012 General Session

26-18-17. Patient notice of health care provider privacy practices.

(1) (a) For purposes of this section:

(i) "Health care provider" means a health care provider as defined in Section 78B-3-403 who:

(A) receives payment for medical services from the Medicaid program established in this chapter, or the Children's Health Insurance Program established in Chapter 40, Utah Children's Health Insurance Act; and

(B) submits a patient's personally identifiable information to the Medicaid eligibility database or the Children's Health Insurance Program eligibility database.

(ii) "HIPAA" means 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162, and 164, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as amended.

(b) Beginning July 1, 2013, this section applies to the Medicaid program, the Children's Health Insurance Program created in Chapter 40, Utah Children's Health Insurance Act, and a health care provider.

(2) A health care provider shall, as part of the notice of privacy practices required by HIPAA, provide notice to the patient or the patient's personal representative that the health care provider either has, or may submit, personally identifiable information about the patient to the Medicaid eligibility database and the Children's Health Insurance Program eligibility database.

(3) The Medicaid program and the Children's Health Insurance Program may not give a health care provider access to the Medicaid eligibility database or the Children's

Health Insurance Program eligibility database unless the health care provider's notice of privacy practices complies with Subsection (2).

(4) The department may adopt an administrative rule to establish uniform language for the state requirement regarding notice of privacy practices to patients required under Subsection (2).

Enacted by Chapter 53, 2013 General Session

26-18-18. Optional Medicaid expansion.

(1) For purposes of this section PPACA is as defined in Section 31A-1-301.

(2) The department and the governor shall not expand the state's Medicaid program to the optional population under PPACA unless:

(a) the Health Reform Task Force has completed a thorough analysis of a statewide charity care system;

(b) the department and its contractors have:

(i) completed a thorough analysis of the impact to the state of expanding the state's Medicaid program to optional populations under PPACA; and

(ii) made the analysis conducted under Subsection (2)(b)(i) available to the public;

(c) the governor or the governor's designee has reported the intention to expand the state Medicaid program under PPACA to the Legislature in compliance with the legislative review process in Sections 63M-1-2505.5 and 26-18-3; and

(d) notwithstanding Subsection 63J-5-103(2), the governor submits the request for expansion of the Medicaid program for optional populations to the Legislature under the high impact federal funds request process required by Section 63J-5-204, Legislative review and approval of certain federal funds request.

Enacted by Chapter 477, 2013 General Session

26-18-19. Medicaid vision services -- Request for proposals.

The department may select one or more contractors in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code, to provide vision services to all Medicaid populations without restricting provider participation, and within existing appropriations from the Legislature.

Enacted by Chapter 366, 2013 General Session

26-18-101. Definitions.

As used in this part:

(1) "Appropriate and medically necessary" means, regarding drug prescribing, dispensing, and patient usage, that it is in conformity with the criteria and standards developed in accordance with this part.

(2) "Board" means the Drug Utilization Review Board created in Section 26-18-102.

(3) "Compendia" means resources widely accepted by the medical profession in the efficacious use of drugs, including "American Hospital Formulary Services Drug

Information," "U.S. Pharmacopeia - Drug Information," "A.M.A. Drug Evaluations," peer-reviewed medical literature, and information provided by manufacturers of drug products.

(4) "Counseling" means the activities conducted by a pharmacist to inform Medicaid recipients about the proper use of drugs, as required by the board under this part.

(5) "Criteria" means those predetermined and explicitly accepted elements used to measure drug use on an ongoing basis in order to determine if the use is appropriate, medically necessary, and not likely to result in adverse medical outcomes.

(6) "Drug-disease contraindications" means that the therapeutic effect of a drug is adversely altered by the presence of another disease condition.

(7) "Drug-interactions" means that two or more drugs taken by a recipient lead to clinically significant toxicity that is characteristic of one or any of the drugs present, or that leads to interference with the effectiveness of one or any of the drugs.

(8) "Drug Utilization Review" or "DUR" means the program designed to measure and assess, on a retrospective and prospective basis, the proper use of outpatient drugs in the Medicaid program.

(9) "Intervention" means a form of communication utilized by the board with a prescriber or pharmacist to inform about or influence prescribing or dispensing practices.

(10) "Overutilization" or "underutilization" means the use of a drug in such quantities that the desired therapeutic goal is not achieved.

(11) "Pharmacist" means a person licensed in this state to engage in the practice of pharmacy under Title 58, Chapter 17b, Pharmacy Practice Act.

(12) "Physician" means a person licensed in this state to practice medicine and surgery under Section 58-67-301 or osteopathic medicine under Section 58-68-301.

(13) "Prospective DUR" means that part of the drug utilization review program that occurs before a drug is dispensed, and that is designed to screen for potential drug therapy problems based on explicit and predetermined criteria and standards.

(14) "Retrospective DUR" means that part of the drug utilization review program that assesses or measures drug use based on an historical review of drug use data against predetermined and explicit criteria and standards, on an ongoing basis with professional input.

(15) "Standards" means the acceptable range of deviation from the criteria that reflects local medical practice and that is tested on the Medicaid recipient database.

(16) "SURS" means the Surveillance Utilization Review System of the Medicaid program.

(17) "Therapeutic appropriateness" means drug prescribing and dispensing based on rational drug therapy that is consistent with criteria and standards.

(18) "Therapeutic duplication" means prescribing and dispensing the same drug or two or more drugs from the same therapeutic class where periods of drug administration overlap and where that practice is not medically indicated.

Amended by Chapter 280, 2004 General Session

26-18-102. DUR Board -- Creation and membership -- Expenses.

(1) There is created a 12-member Drug Utilization Review Board responsible for implementation of a retrospective and prospective DUR program.

(2) (a) Except as required by Subsection (2)(b), as terms of current board members expire, the executive director shall appoint each new member or reappointed member to a four-year term.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (2)(a), the executive director shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of board members are staggered so that approximately half of the board is appointed every two years.

(c) Persons appointed to the board may be reappointed upon completion of their terms, but may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

(d) The executive director shall provide for geographic balance in representation on the board.

(3) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term.

(4) The membership shall be comprised of the following:

(a) four physicians who are actively engaged in the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine in this state, to be selected from a list of nominees provided by the Utah Medical Association;

(b) one physician in this state who is actively engaged in academic medicine;

(c) three pharmacists who are actively practicing in retail pharmacy in this state, to be selected from a list of nominees provided by the Utah Pharmaceutical Association;

(d) one pharmacist who is actively engaged in academic pharmacy;

(e) one person who shall represent consumers;

(f) one person who shall represent pharmaceutical manufacturers, to be recommended by the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association; and

(g) one dentist licensed to practice in this state under Title 58, Chapter 69, Dentists and Dental Hygienists Act, who is actively engaged in the practice of dentistry, nominated by the Utah Dental Association.

(5) Physician and pharmacist members of the board shall have expertise in clinically appropriate prescribing and dispensing of outpatient drugs.

(6) The board shall elect a chair from among its members who shall serve a one-year term, and may serve consecutive terms.

(7) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

(a) Section 63A-3-106;

(b) Section 63A-3-107; and

(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

Amended by Chapter 286, 2010 General Session
Amended by Chapter 324, 2010 General Session

26-18-103. DUR Board -- Responsibilities.

The board shall:

(1) develop rules necessary to carry out its responsibilities as defined in this part;

(2) oversee the implementation of a Medicaid retrospective and prospective DUR program in accordance with this part, including responsibility for approving provisions of contractual agreements between the Medicaid program and any other entity that will process and review Medicaid drug claims and profiles for the DUR program in accordance with this part;

(3) develop and apply predetermined criteria and standards to be used in retrospective and prospective DUR, ensuring that the criteria and standards are based on the compendia, and that they are developed with professional input, in a consensus fashion, with provisions for timely revision and assessment as necessary. The DUR standards developed by the board shall reflect the local practices of physicians in order to monitor:

(a) therapeutic appropriateness;

(b) overutilization or underutilization;

(c) therapeutic duplication;

(d) drug-disease contraindications;

(e) drug-drug interactions;

(f) incorrect drug dosage or duration of drug treatment; and

(g) clinical abuse and misuse;

(4) develop, select, apply, and assess interventions and remedial strategies for physicians, pharmacists, and recipients that are educational and not punitive in nature, in order to improve the quality of care;

(5) disseminate information to physicians and pharmacists to ensure that they are aware of the board's duties and powers;

(6) provide written, oral, or electronic reminders of patient-specific or drug-specific information, designed to ensure recipient, physician, and pharmacist confidentiality, and suggest changes in prescribing or dispensing practices designed to improve the quality of care;

(7) utilize face-to-face discussions between experts in drug therapy and the prescriber or pharmacist who has been targeted for educational intervention;

(8) conduct intensified reviews or monitoring of selected prescribers or pharmacists;

(9) create an educational program using data provided through DUR to provide active and ongoing educational outreach programs to improve prescribing and dispensing practices, either directly or by contract with other governmental or private entities;

(10) provide a timely evaluation of intervention to determine if those interventions have improved the quality of care;

(11) publish an annual report, subject to public comment prior to its issuance, and submit that report to the United States Department of Health and Human Services by December 1 of each year. That report shall also be submitted to the executive director, the president of the Utah Pharmaceutical Association, and the president of the Utah Medical Association by December 1 of each year. The report shall include:

(a) an overview of the activities of the board and the DUR program;

(b) a description of interventions used and their effectiveness, specifying

whether the intervention was a result of underutilization or overutilization of drugs, without disclosing the identities of individual physicians, pharmacists, or recipients;

(c) the costs of administering the DUR program;

(d) any fiscal savings resulting from the DUR program;

(e) an overview of the fiscal impact of the DUR program to other areas of the Medicaid program such as hospitalization or long-term care costs;

(f) a quantifiable assessment of whether DUR has improved the recipient's quality of care;

(g) a review of the total number of prescriptions, by drug therapeutic class;

(h) an assessment of the impact of educational programs or interventions on prescribing or dispensing practices; and

(i) recommendations for DUR program improvement;

(12) develop a working agreement with related boards or agencies, including the State Board of Pharmacy, Physicians' Licensing Board, and SURS staff within the division, in order to clarify areas of responsibility for each, where those areas may overlap;

(13) establish a grievance process for physicians and pharmacists under this part, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act;

(14) publish and disseminate educational information to physicians and pharmacists concerning the board and the DUR program, including information regarding:

(a) identification and reduction of the frequency of patterns of fraud, abuse, gross overuse, inappropriate, or medically unnecessary care among physicians, pharmacists, and recipients;

(b) potential or actual severe or adverse reactions to drugs;

(c) therapeutic appropriateness;

(d) overutilization or underutilization;

(e) appropriate use of generics;

(f) therapeutic duplication;

(g) drug-disease contraindications;

(h) drug-drug interactions;

(i) incorrect drug dosage and duration of drug treatment;

(j) drug allergy interactions; and

(k) clinical abuse and misuse;

(15) develop and publish, with the input of the State Board of Pharmacy, guidelines and standards to be used by pharmacists in counseling Medicaid recipients in accordance with this part. The guidelines shall ensure that the recipient may refuse counseling and that the refusal is to be documented by the pharmacist. Items to be discussed as part of that counseling include:

(a) the name and description of the medication;

(b) administration, form, and duration of therapy;

(c) special directions and precautions for use;

(d) common severe side effects or interactions, and therapeutic interactions, and how to avoid those occurrences;

(e) techniques for self-monitoring drug therapy;

(f) proper storage;

(g) prescription refill information; and
(h) action to be taken in the event of a missed dose; and
(16) establish procedures in cooperation with the State Board of Pharmacy for pharmacists to record information to be collected under this part. The recorded information shall include:
(a) the name, address, age, and gender of the recipient;
(b) individual history of the recipient where significant, including disease state, known allergies and drug reactions, and a comprehensive list of medications and relevant devices;
(c) the pharmacist's comments on the individual's drug therapy;
(d) name of prescriber; and
(e) name of drug, dose, duration of therapy, and directions for use.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-18-104. Confidentiality of records.
(1) Information obtained under this part shall be treated as confidential or controlled information under Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act.
(2) The board shall establish procedures insuring that the information described in Subsection 26-18-103(16) is held confidential by the pharmacist, being provided to the physician only upon request.
(3) The board shall adopt and implement procedures designed to ensure the confidentiality of all information collected, stored, retrieved, assessed, or analyzed by the board, staff to the board, or contractors to the DUR program, that identifies individual physicians, pharmacists, or recipients. The board may have access to identifying information for purposes of carrying out intervention activities, but that identifying information may not be released to anyone other than a member of the board. The board may release cumulative nonidentifying information for research purposes.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-18-105. Drug prior approval program.
(1) A drug prior approval program approved or implemented by the board shall meet the following conditions:
(a) except as provided in Subsection (2), a drug may not be placed on prior approval for other than medical reasons;
(b) the board shall hold a public hearing at least 30 days prior to placing a drug on prior approval;
(c) notwithstanding the provisions of Section 52-4-202, the board shall provide not less than 14 days' notice to the public before holding a public hearing under Subsection (1)(b);
(d) the board shall consider written and oral comments submitted by interested parties prior to or during the hearing held in accordance with Subsection (1)(b);
(e) the board shall provide evidence that placing a drug class on prior approval:

(i) will not impede quality of recipient care; and
(ii) that the drug class is subject to clinical abuse or misuse;
(f) the board shall reconsider its decision to place a drug on prior approval:
(i) no later than nine months after any drug class is placed on prior approval; and
(ii) at a public hearing with notice as provided in Subsection (1)(b);
(g) the program shall provide an approval or denial of a request for prior approval:
(i) by either:
(A) fax;
(B) telephone; or
(C) electronic transmission;
(ii) at least Monday through Friday, except for state holidays; and
(iii) within 24 hours after receipt of the prior approval request;
(h) the program shall provide for the dispensing of at least a 72-hour supply of the drug on the prior approval program:
(i) in an emergency situation; or
(ii) on weekends or state holidays;
(i) the program may be applied to allow acceptable medical use of a drug on prior approval for appropriate off-label indications; and
(j) before placing a drug class on the prior approval program, the board shall:
(i) determine that the requirements of Subsections (1)(a) through (i) have been met; and
(ii) by majority vote, place the drug class on prior approval.
(2) The board may, only after complying with Subsections (1)(b) through (j), consider the cost:
(a) of a drug when placing a drug on the prior approval program; and
(b) associated with including, or excluding a drug from the prior approval process, including:
(i) potential side effects associated with a drug; or
(ii) potential hospitalizations or other complications that may occur as a result of a drug's inclusion on the prior approval process.

Amended by Chapter 205, 2010 General Session

26-18-106. Advisory committees.

The board may establish advisory committees to assist it in carrying out its duties under this part.

Enacted by Chapter 273, 1992 General Session

26-18-107. Retrospective and prospective DUR.

(1) The board, in cooperation with the division, shall include in its state plan the creation and implementation of a retrospective and prospective DUR program for Medicaid outpatient drugs to ensure that prescriptions are appropriate, medically necessary, and not likely to result in adverse medical outcomes.

(2) The retrospective and prospective DUR program shall be operated under guidelines established by the board under Subsections (3) and (4).

(3) The retrospective DUR program shall be based on guidelines established by the board, using the mechanized drug claims processing and information retrieval system to analyze claims data in order to:

(a) identify patterns of fraud, abuse, gross overuse, and inappropriate or medically unnecessary care; and

(b) assess data on drug use against explicit predetermined standards that are based on the compendia and other sources for the purpose of monitoring:

(i) therapeutic appropriateness;

(ii) overutilization or underutilization;

(iii) therapeutic duplication;

(iv) drug-disease contraindications;

(v) drug-drug interactions;

(vi) incorrect drug dosage or duration of drug treatment; and

(vii) clinical abuse and misuse.

(4) The prospective DUR program shall be based on guidelines established by the board and shall provide that, before a prescription is filled or delivered, a review will be conducted by the pharmacist at the point of sale to screen for potential drug therapy problems resulting from:

(a) therapeutic duplication;

(b) drug-drug interactions;

(c) incorrect dosage or duration of treatment;

(d) drug-allergy interactions; and

(e) clinical abuse or misuse.

(5) In conducting the prospective DUR, a pharmacist may not alter the prescribed outpatient drug therapy without the consent of the prescribing physician. This section does not effect the ability of a pharmacist to substitute a generic equivalent.

Enacted by Chapter 273, 1992 General Session

26-18-108. Penalties.

Any person who violates the confidentiality provisions of this part is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

Enacted by Chapter 273, 1992 General Session

26-18-109. Immunity.

There is no liability on the part of, and no cause of action of any nature arises against any member of the board, its agents, or employees for any action or omission by them in effecting the provisions of this part.

Enacted by Chapter 273, 1992 General Session

26-18-402. Medicaid Restricted Account.

(1) There is created a restricted account in the General Fund known as the Medicaid Restricted Account.

(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3), the following shall be deposited into the Medicaid Restricted Account:

(i) any general funds appropriated to the department for the state plan for medical assistance or for the Division of Health Care Financing that are not expended by the department in the fiscal year for which the general funds were appropriated and which are not otherwise designated as nonlapsing shall lapse into the Medicaid Restricted Account;

(ii) any unused state funds that are associated with the Medicaid program, as defined in Section 26-18-2, from the Department of Workforce Services and the Department of Human Services; and

(iii) any penalties imposed and collected under:

(A) Section 17B-2a-818.5;

(B) Section 19-1-206;

(C) Section 63A-5-205;

(D) Section 63C-9-403;

(E) Section 72-6-107.5; or

(F) Section 79-2-404.

(b) The account shall earn interest and all interest earned shall be deposited into the account.

(c) The Legislature may appropriate money in the restricted account to fund programs that expand medical assistance coverage and private health insurance plans to low income persons who have not traditionally been served by Medicaid, including the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program created in Chapter 40.

(3) For fiscal years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 the following funds are nonlapsing:

(a) any general funds appropriated to the department for the state plan for medical assistance, or for the Division of Health Care Financing that are not expended by the department in the fiscal year in which the general funds were appropriated; and

(b) funds described in Subsection (2)(a)(ii).

Amended by Chapter 278, 2013 General Session

26-18-403. Medicaid waiver for independent foster care adolescents.

(1) For purposes of this section, an "independent foster care adolescent" includes any individual who reached 18 years of age while in the custody of the Division of Child and Family Services, or the Department of Human Services if the Division of Child and Family Services was the primary case manager, or a federally recognized Indian tribe.

(2) An independent foster care adolescent is eligible, when funds are available, for Medicaid coverage until the individual reaches 21 years of age.

(3) Before July 1, 2006, the division shall submit a state Medicaid Plan amendment to the Center For Medicaid Services to provide medical coverage for independent foster care adolescents effective fiscal year 2006-07.

Enacted by Chapter 110, 2006 General Session

26-18-404. Home and community-based long-term care -- Room and board assistance.

If the department receives approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to replace the Medicaid program's current FlexCare program with a new program to provide long-term care services in home and community-based settings rather than institutions, the department shall assist in the payment of room and board costs for any person in the new program without sufficient income to fully pay those costs.

Enacted by Chapter 190, 2007 General Session

26-18-405. Waivers to maximize replacement of fee-for-service delivery model.

(1) The department shall develop a proposal to amend the state plan for the Medicaid program in a way that maximizes replacement of the fee-for-service delivery model with one or more risk-based delivery models.

(2) The proposal shall:

(a) restructure the program's provider payment provisions to reward health care providers for delivering the most appropriate services at the lowest cost and in ways that, compared to services delivered before implementation of the proposal, maintain or improve recipient health status;

(b) restructure the program's cost sharing provisions and other incentives to reward recipients for personal efforts to:

(i) maintain or improve their health status; and

(ii) use providers that deliver the most appropriate services at the lowest cost;

(c) identify the evidence-based practices and measures, risk adjustment methodologies, payment systems, funding sources, and other mechanisms necessary to reward providers for delivering the most appropriate services at the lowest cost, including mechanisms that:

(i) pay providers for packages of services delivered over entire episodes of illness rather than for individual services delivered during each patient encounter; and

(ii) reward providers for delivering services that make the most positive contribution to a recipient's health status;

(d) limit total annual per-patient-per-month expenditures for services delivered through fee-for-service arrangements to total annual per-patient-per-month expenditures for services delivered through risk-based arrangements covering similar recipient populations and services; and

(e) limit the rate of growth in per-patient-per-month General Fund expenditures for the program to the rate of growth in General Fund expenditures for all other programs, when the rate of growth in the General Fund expenditures for all other programs is greater than zero.

(3) To the extent possible, the department shall develop the proposal with the input of stakeholder groups representing those who will be affected by the proposal.

(4) No later than June 1, 2011, the department shall submit a written report on

the development of the proposal to the Legislature's Executive Appropriations Committee, Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee, and Health and Human Services Interim Committee.

(5) No later than July 1, 2011, the department shall submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services within the United States Department of Health and Human Services a request for waivers from federal statutory and regulatory law necessary to implement the proposal.

(6) After the request for waivers has been made, and prior to its implementation, the department shall report to the Legislature in accordance with Section 26-18-3 on any modifications to the request proposed by the department or made by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

(7) The department shall implement the proposal in the fiscal year that follows the fiscal year in which the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services approves the request for waivers.

Enacted by Chapter 211, 2011 General Session

26-18-406. Medicaid waiver for community service pilot program.

(1) For purposes of this section, "community service pilot program" is a program in which the department:

(a) identifies less than 100 Medicaid recipients who are capable of providing community services to others;

(b) exempts a Medicaid recipient who is not capable of providing community services from the requirements of the community service pilot program;

(c) identifies community services that the department will recognize for purposes of the pilot program; and

(d) requires an individual identified under Subsection (1)(a) who is receiving Medicaid services to perform a certain number of hours of community service as a condition of receiving Medicaid benefits.

(2) The department shall develop a proposal to amend the state Medicaid plan to include a community service pilot program.

(3) The department shall, by January 1, 2012, apply for a Medicaid waiver with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services within the United States Department of Health and Human Services to implement a community service pilot program within the state Medicaid plan.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-18-407. Medicaid waiver for autism spectrum disorder.

(1) For purposes of this section "autism spectrum disorder" means a pervasive developmental disorder as defined by the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual on Mental Disorders, including:

(a) autistic disorder;

(b) asperger's disorder; and

(c) pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified.

(2) The department shall, by July 1, 2012, apply for a Medicaid waiver with the

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services within the United States Department of Health and Human Services to implement an autism spectrum disorders program within the state Medicaid program.

(3) The autism spectrum disorders waiver program shall:

(a) provide services to children between the ages of two years and six years with autism spectrum disorders;

(b) accept applications for the program during periods of open enrollment;

(c) initially provide services for up to 500 children, as funding permits;

(d) convene a public process with the Department of Human Services to develop the benefits and services to include in the autism waiver program, including:

(i) demonstrated effective treatments;

(ii) methods to engage family members in the treatment process; and

(iii) outreach to children in rural and underserved areas of the state; and

(e) include a mechanism to evaluate the cost, effectiveness, and outcomes of the different services provided as part of the autism waiver program.

(4) The department shall report to the Legislature's Health and Human Services Interim Committee by November 30, 2013, and prior to each November 30 thereafter while the waiver is in effect regarding:

(a) the number of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and the number of children served under the waiver;

(b) success involving families in supporting treatment plans for autistic children;

(c) the cost of the autism waiver program; and

(d) the outcomes and effectiveness of the services offered by the autism waiver program.

Enacted by Chapter 402, 2012 General Session

26-18-408. Incentives to appropriately use emergency room services.

(1) (a) This section applies to the Medicaid program and to the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program created in Chapter 40, Utah Children's Health Insurance Act.

(b) For purposes of this section:

(i) "Accountable care organization" means a Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program administrator that contracts with the Medicaid program or the Children's Health Insurance Program to deliver health care through an accountable care plan.

(ii) "Accountable care plan" means a risk based delivery service model authorized by Section 26-18-405 and administered by an accountable care organization.

(iii) "Nonemergent care":

(A) means use of the emergency room to receive health care that is nonemergent as defined by the department by administrative rule adopted in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act and the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act; and

(B) does not mean the medical services provided to a recipient to conduct a medical screening examination to determine if the recipient has an emergent or nonemergent condition.

(2) (a) An accountable care organization may, in accordance with Subsection (2)(b):

(i) audit emergency room services provided to a recipient enrolled in the accountable care plan to determine if nonemergent care was provided to the recipient; and

(ii) establish differential payment for emergent and nonemergent care provided in an emergency room.

(b) (i) The audits and differential payments under Subsections (2)(a) and (b) apply to services provided to a recipient on or after July 1, 2015.

(ii) Except in cases of suspected fraud, waste, and abuse, an accountable care organization's audit of payment under Subsections (2)(a) and (b) is limited to the 18-month period of time after the date on which the medical services were provided to the recipient. If fraud, waste, or abuse is alleged, the accountable care organization's audit of payment under Subsections (2)(a) and (b) is limited to three years after the date on which the medical services were provided to the recipient.

(3) An accountable care organization shall:

(a) use the savings under Subsection (2) to maintain and improve access to primary care and urgent care services for all of the recipients enrolled in the accountable care plan; and

(b) report to the department on how the accountable care organization complied with Subsection (3)(a).

(4) (a) The department shall, through administrative rule adopted by the department, develop quality measurements that evaluate an accountable care organization's delivery of:

(i) appropriate emergency room services to recipients enrolled in the accountable care plan;

(ii) expanded primary care and urgent care for recipients enrolled in the accountable care plan, with consideration of the accountable care organization's:

(A) emergency room diversion plans;

(B) recipient access to primary care providers and community health centers including evening and weekend access; and

(C) other innovations for expanding access to primary care; and

(iii) quality of care for the accountable care plan members.

(b) The department shall:

(i) compare the quality measures developed under Subsection (4)(a) for each accountable care organization; and

(ii) share the data and quality measures developed under Subsection (4)(a) with the Health Data Committee created in Chapter 33a, Utah Health Data Authority Act.

(c) The Health Data Committee may publish data in accordance with Chapter 33a, Utah Health Data Authority Act which compares the quality measures for the accountable care plans.

(5) The department shall apply for a Medicaid waiver and a Children's Health Insurance Program waiver with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services within the United States Department of Health and Human Services, to:

(a) allow the program to charge recipients who are enrolled in an accountable care plan a higher copayment for emergency room services; and

(b) develop, by administrative rule, an algorithm to determine assignment of new, unassigned recipients to specific accountable care plans based on the plan's performance in relation to the quality measures developed pursuant to Subsection (4)(a).

(6) The department shall report to the Legislature's Health and Human Services Interim Committee on or before October 1, 2016, regarding implementation of this section.

Enacted by Chapter 103, 2013 General Session

26-18-501. Definitions.

As used in this part:

(1) "Certified program" means a nursing care facility program with Medicaid certification.

(2) "Director" means the director of the Division of Health Care Financing.

(3) "Medicaid certification" means the right to Medicaid reimbursement as a provider of a nursing care facility program as established by division rule.

(4) (a) "Nursing care facility" means the following facilities licensed by the department under Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act:

(i) skilled nursing homes;

(ii) intermediate care facilities; and

(iii) an intermediate care facility for people with an intellectual disability.

(b) "Nursing care facility" does not mean a critical access hospital that meets the criteria of 42 U.S.C. 1395i-4(c)(2) (1998).

(5) "Nursing care facility program" means the personnel, licenses, services, contracts and all other requirements that shall be met for a nursing care facility to be eligible for Medicaid certification under this part and division rule.

(6) "Physical facility" means the buildings or other physical structures where a nursing care facility program is operated.

(7) "Service area" means the boundaries of the distinct geographic area served by a certified program as determined by the division in accordance with this part and division rule.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session
Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-18-502. Purpose -- Medicaid certification of nursing care facilities.

(1) The Legislature finds:

(a) that an oversupply of nursing care facility programs in the state adversely affects the state Medicaid program and the health of the people in the state; and

(b) it is in the best interest of the state to prohibit Medicaid certification of nursing care facility programs, except as authorized by this part.

(2) Medicaid reimbursement of nursing care facility programs is limited to:

(a) the number of nursing care facility programs with Medicaid certification as of May 4, 2004; and

(b) additional nursing care facility programs approved for Medicaid certification

under the provisions of Subsections 26-18-503(5) and (7).

(3) The division may not:

(a) except as authorized by Section 26-18-503:

(i) process initial applications for Medicaid certification or execute provider agreements with nursing care facility programs; or

(ii) reinstate Medicaid certification for a nursing care facility whose certification expired or was terminated by action of the federal or state government; or

(b) execute a Medicaid provider agreement with a certified program that moves its nursing care facility program to a different physical facility, except as authorized by Subsection 26-18-503(3).

Amended by Chapter 60, 2013 General Session

26-18-503. Authorization to renew, transfer, or increase Medicaid certified programs -- Reimbursement methodology.

(1) (a) The division may renew Medicaid certification of a certified program if the program, without lapse in service to Medicaid recipients, has its nursing care facility program certified by the division at the same physical facility as long as the licensed and certified bed capacity at the facility has not been expanded, unless the director has approved additional beds in accordance with Subsection (5).

(b) The division may renew Medicaid certification of a nursing care facility program that is not currently certified if:

(i) since the day on which the program last operated with Medicaid certification:

(A) the physical facility where the program operated has functioned solely and continuously as a nursing care facility; and

(B) the owner of the program has not, under this section or Section 26-18-505, transferred to another nursing care facility program the license for any of the Medicaid beds in the program; and

(ii) the number of beds granted renewed Medicaid certification does not exceed the number of beds certified at the time the program last operated with Medicaid certification, excluding a period of time where the program operated with temporary certification under Subsection 26-18-504(4).

(2) (a) The division may issue a Medicaid certification for a new nursing care facility program if a current owner of the Medicaid certified program transfers its ownership of the Medicaid certification to the new nursing care facility program and the new nursing care facility program meets all of the following conditions:

(i) the new nursing care facility program operates at the same physical facility as the previous Medicaid certified program;

(ii) the new nursing care facility program gives a written assurance to the director in accordance with Subsection (4);

(iii) the new nursing care facility program receives the Medicaid certification within one year of the date the previously certified program ceased to provide medical assistance to a Medicaid recipient; and

(iv) the licensed and certified bed capacity at the facility has not been expanded, unless the director has approved additional beds in accordance with Subsection (5).

(b) A nursing care facility program that receives Medicaid certification under the

provisions of Subsection (2)(a) does not assume the Medicaid liabilities of the previous nursing care facility program if the new nursing care facility program:

(i) is not owned in whole or in part by the previous nursing care facility program; or

(ii) is not a successor in interest of the previous nursing care facility program.

(3) The division may issue a Medicaid certification to a nursing care facility program that was previously a certified program but now resides in a new or renovated physical facility if the nursing care facility program meets all of the following:

(a) the nursing care facility program met all applicable requirements for Medicaid certification at the time of closure;

(b) the new or renovated physical facility is in the same county or within a five-mile radius of the original physical facility;

(c) the time between which the certified program ceased to operate in the original facility and will begin to operate in the new physical facility is not more than three years;

(d) if Subsection (3)(c) applies, the certified program notifies the department within 90 days after ceasing operations in its original facility, of its intent to retain its Medicaid certification;

(e) the provider gives written assurance to the director in accordance with Subsection (4) that no third party has a legitimate claim to operate a certified program at the previous physical facility; and

(f) the bed capacity in the physical facility has not been expanded unless the director has approved additional beds in accordance with Subsection (5).

(4) (a) The entity requesting Medicaid certification under Subsections (2) and (3) shall give written assurances satisfactory to the director or the director's designee that:

(i) no third party has a legitimate claim to operate the certified program;

(ii) the requesting entity agrees to defend and indemnify the department against any claims by a third party who may assert a right to operate the certified program; and

(iii) if a third party is found, by final agency action of the department after exhaustion of all administrative and judicial appeal rights, to be entitled to operate a certified program at the physical facility the certified program shall voluntarily comply with Subsection (4)(b).

(b) If a finding is made under the provisions of Subsection (4)(a)(iii):

(i) the certified program shall immediately surrender its Medicaid certification and comply with division rules regarding billing for Medicaid and the provision of services to Medicaid patients; and

(ii) the department shall transfer the surrendered Medicaid certification to the third party who prevailed under Subsection (4)(a)(iii).

(5) (a) As provided in Subsection 26-18-502(2)(b), the director shall issue additional Medicaid certification when requested by a nursing care facility or other interested party if there is insufficient bed capacity with current certified programs in a service area. A determination of insufficient bed capacity shall be based on the nursing care facility or other interested party providing reasonable evidence of an inadequate number of beds in the county or group of counties impacted by the requested Medicaid certification based on:

(i) current demographics which demonstrate nursing care facility occupancy

levels of at least 90% for all existing and proposed facilities within a prospective three-year period;

(ii) current nursing care facility occupancy levels of 90%; or

(iii) no other nursing care facility within a 35-mile radius of the nursing care facility requesting the additional certification.

(b) In addition to the requirements of Subsection (5)(a), a nursing care facility program shall demonstrate by an independent analysis that the nursing care facility can financially support itself at an after tax break-even net income level based on projected occupancy levels.

(c) When making a determination to certify additional beds or an additional nursing care facility program under Subsection (5)(a):

(i) the director shall consider whether the nursing care facility will offer specialized or unique services that are underserved in a service area;

(ii) the director shall consider whether any Medicaid certified beds are subject to a claim by a previous certified program that may reopen under the provisions of Subsections (2) and (3); and

(iii) the director may consider how to add additional capacity to the long-term care delivery system to best meet the needs of Medicaid recipients.

(6) The department shall adopt administrative rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to adjust the Medicaid nursing care facility property reimbursement methodology to:

(a) beginning July 1, 2008, only pay that portion of the property component of rates, representing actual bed usage by Medicaid clients as a percentage of the greater of:

(i) actual occupancy; or

(ii) (A) for a nursing care facility other than a facility described in Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(B), 85% of total bed capacity; or

(B) for a rural nursing care facility, 65% of total bed capacity; and

(b) beginning July 1, 2008, not allow for increases in reimbursement for property values without major renovation or replacement projects as defined by the department by rule.

(7) (a) Notwithstanding Subsection 26-18-504(4), if a nursing care facility does not seek Medicaid certification for a bed under the provisions of Subsections (1) through (6), the department shall grant Medicaid certification for a licensed non-Medicaid certified bed if:

(i) the nursing care facility is licensed under Subsection 26-21-23(2)(b);

(ii) the nursing care facility meets the quality of care regulations issued by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services;

(iii) the Medicaid certified bed will be used by a patient who:

(A) is a resident of the nursing care facility;

(B) has exhausted the patient's Medicare benefits for skilled nursing services; and

(C) qualifies for Medicaid; and

(iv) the total number of licensed beds in the facility that are granted Medicaid certification under the provisions of this Subsection (7)(a) does not exceed 10% of the total number of licensed beds in the facility.

(b) The department may not revoke the Medicaid certification of a bed under this Subsection (7) as long as the provisions of Subsections (7)(a)(ii) and (iii) are met.

Amended by Chapter 60, 2013 General Session

26-18-504. Appeals of division decision -- Rulemaking authority -- Application of act.

(1) A decision by the director under this part to deny Medicaid certification for a nursing care facility program or to deny additional bed capacity for an existing certified program is subject to review under the procedures and requirements of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

(2) The department shall make rules to administer and enforce this part in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(3) A nursing care facility may receive Medicaid certification under the rules in effect prior to July 1, 2004 if the nursing care facility, prior to May 4, 2004:

(a) (i) paid applicable fees to the department; and

(ii) submits construction plans to the department; or

(b) is in a current phase of construction approved by the department.

(4) (a) In the event the department is at risk for a federal disallowance with regard to a Medicaid recipient being served in a nursing care facility program that is not Medicaid certified, the department may grant temporary Medicaid certification to that facility for up to 24 months.

(b) (i) The department may extend a temporary Medicaid certification granted to a facility under Subsection (4)(a):

(A) for the number of beds in the nursing care facility occupied by a Medicaid recipient; and

(B) for the period of time during which the Medicaid recipient resides at the facility.

(ii) A temporary Medicaid certification granted under this Subsection (4) is revoked upon:

(A) the discharge of the patient from the facility; or

(B) the patient no longer residing at the facility for any reason.

(c) The department may place conditions on the temporary certification granted under Subsections (4)(a) and (b), such as:

(i) not allowing additional admissions of Medicaid recipients to the program; and

(ii) not paying for the care of the patient after October 1, 2008, with state only dollars.

Amended by Chapter 347, 2008 General Session
Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-18-505. Authorization to sell or transfer licensed Medicaid beds -- Duties of transferor -- Duties of transferee -- Duties of division.

(1) This section provides a method to transfer the license for a Medicaid bed from one nursing care facility program to another entity that is in addition to the authorization to transfer under Section 26-18-503.

(2) (a) A nursing care facility program may transfer or sell one or more of its licenses for Medicaid beds in accordance with Subsection (2)(b) if:

(i) at the time of the transfer, and with respect to the license for the Medicaid bed that will be transferred, the nursing care facility program that will transfer the Medicaid license meets all applicable regulations for Medicaid certification;

(ii) 30 days prior to the transfer, the nursing care facility program gives a written assurance to the director and to the transferee in accordance with Subsection 26-18-503(4); and

(iii) 30 days prior to the transfer, the nursing care facility program that will transfer the license for a Medicaid bed notifies the division in writing of:

(A) the number of bed licenses that will be transferred;

(B) the date of the transfer; and

(C) the identity and location of the entity receiving the transferred licenses.

(b) A nursing care facility program may transfer or sell one or more of its licenses for Medicaid beds to:

(i) a nursing care facility program that has the same owner or successor in interest of the same owner;

(ii) a nursing care facility program that has a different owner; or

(iii) an entity that intends to establish a nursing care facility program.

(3) An entity that receives or purchases a license for a Medicaid bed:

(a) may receive a license for a Medicaid bed from more than one nursing care facility program;

(b) within 14 days of seeking Medicaid certification of beds in the nursing care facility program, give the division notice of the total number of licenses for Medicaid beds that the entity received and who it received the licenses from;

(c) may only seek Medicaid certification for the number of licensed beds in the nursing care facility program equal to the total number of licenses for Medicaid beds received by the entity, multiplied by a conversion factor of .7, and rounded down to the lowest integer;

(d) does not have to demonstrate need for the Medicaid licensed beds under Subsection 26-18-503(5);

(e) shall meet the standards for Medicaid certification other than those in Subsection 26-18-503(5), including personnel, services, contracts, and licensing of facilities under Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act; and

(f) shall obtain Medicaid certification for the licensed Medicaid beds within three years of the date of transfer as documented under Subsection (2)(a)(iii)(B).

(4) The conversion formula required by Subsection (3)(c) shall be calculated:

(a) when the nursing care facility program applies to the Department for Medicaid certification of the licensed beds; and

(b) based on the total number of licenses for Medicaid beds transferred to the nursing care facility at the time of the request for Medicaid certification.

(5) (a) When the division receives notice of a transfer of a license for a Medicaid bed under Subsection (2)(a)(iii)(A), the division shall reduce the number of licenses for Medicaid beds at the transferring nursing care facility:

(i) equal to the number of licenses transferred; and

(ii) effective on the date of the transfer as reported under Subsection

(2)(a)(iii)(B).

(b) For purposes of Section 26-18-502, the division shall approve Medicaid certification for the receiving entity:

(i) in accordance with the formula established in Subsection (3)(c); and

(ii) if:

(A) the nursing care facility seeks Medicaid certification for the transferred licenses within the time limit required by Subsection (3)(f); and

(B) the nursing care facility program meets other requirements for Medicaid certification under Subsection (3)(e).

(c) A license for a Medicaid bed may not be approved for Medicaid certification without meeting the requirements of Sections 26-18-502 and 26-18-503 if:

(i) the license for a Medicaid bed is transferred under this section but the receiving entity does not obtain Medicaid certification for the licensed bed within the time required by Subsection (3)(f); or

(ii) the license for a Medicaid bed is transferred under this section but the license is no longer eligible for Medicaid certification as a result of the conversion factor established in Subsection (3)(c).

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-18-601. Title.

This part is known as "Medical Assistance Accountability."

Enacted by Chapter 362, 2011 General Session

26-18-602. Definitions.

As used in this part:

(1) "Abuse" means:

(a) an action or practice that:

(i) is inconsistent with sound fiscal, business, or medical practices; and

(ii) results, or may result, in unnecessary Medicaid related costs or other medical or hospital assistance costs; or

(b) reckless or negligent upcoding.

(2) "Auditor's Office" means the Office of Internal Audit and Program Integrity, within the department.

(3) "Fraud" means intentional or knowing:

(a) deception, misrepresentation, or upcoding in relation to Medicaid funds, costs, claims, reimbursement, or practice; or

(b) deception or misrepresentation in relation to medical or hospital assistance funds, costs, claims, reimbursement, or practice.

(4) "Medical or hospital assistance" is as defined in Section 26-18-2.

(5) "Upcoding" means assigning an inaccurate billing code for a service that is payable or reimbursable by Medicaid funds, if the correct billing code for the service, taking into account reasonable opinions derived from official published coding definitions, would result in a lower Medicaid payment or reimbursement.

(6) "Waste" means overutilization of resources or inappropriate payment.

Enacted by Chapter 362, 2011 General Session

26-18-603. Adjudicative proceedings related to Medicaid funds.

(1) If a proceeding of the department, under Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, relates in any way to recovery of Medicaid funds:

(a) the presiding officer shall be designated by the executive director of the department and report directly to the executive director or, in the discretion of the executive director, report directly to the director of the Office of Internal Audit and Program Integrity; and

(b) the decision of the presiding officer is the recommended decision to the executive director of the department or a designee of the executive director who is not in the division.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to hearings conducted by the Department of Workforce Services relating to medical assistance eligibility determinations.

(3) If a proceeding of the department, under Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, relates in any way to Medicaid or Medicaid funds, the following may attend and present evidence or testimony at the proceeding:

(a) the director of the Office of Internal Audit and Program Integrity, or the director's designee; and

(b) the inspector general of Medicaid services, if an Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services is created by statute, or the inspector general's designee.

(4) In relation to a proceeding of the department under Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, a person may not, outside of the actual proceeding, attempt to influence the decision of the presiding officer.

Enacted by Chapter 362, 2011 General Session

26-18-604. Division duties -- Reporting.

(1) The division shall:

(a) develop and implement procedures relating to Medicaid funds and medical or hospital assistance funds to ensure that providers do not receive:

(i) duplicate payments for the same goods or services;

(ii) payment for goods or services by resubmitting a claim for which:

(A) payment has been disallowed on the grounds that payment would be a violation of federal or state law, administrative rule, or the state plan; and

(B) the decision to disallow the payment has become final;

(iii) payment for goods or services provided after a recipient's death, including payment for pharmaceuticals or long-term care; or

(iv) payment for transporting an unborn infant;

(b) consult with the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, other states, and the Office of Inspector General for Medicaid Services, if one is created by statute, to determine and implement best practices for discovering and eliminating fraud, waste, and abuse of Medicaid funds and medical or hospital assistance funds;

(c) actively seek repayment from providers for improperly used or paid:

(i) Medicaid funds; and

(ii) medical or hospital assistance funds;

(d) coordinate, track, and keep records of all division efforts to obtain repayment of the funds described in Subsection (1)(c), and the results of those efforts;

(e) keep Medicaid pharmaceutical costs as low as possible by actively seeking to obtain pharmaceuticals at the lowest price possible, including, on a quarterly basis for the pharmaceuticals that represent the highest 45% of state Medicaid expenditures for pharmaceuticals and on an annual basis for the remaining pharmaceuticals:

(i) tracking changes in the price of pharmaceuticals;

(ii) checking the availability and price of generic drugs;

(iii) reviewing and updating the state's maximum allowable cost list; and

(iv) comparing pharmaceutical costs of the state Medicaid program to available pharmacy price lists; and

(f) provide training, on an annual basis, to the employees of the division who make decisions on billing codes, or who are in the best position to observe and identify upcoding, in order to avoid and detect upcoding.

(2) Each year, the division shall report the following to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee:

(a) incidents of improperly used or paid Medicaid funds and medical or hospital assistance funds;

(b) division efforts to obtain repayment from providers of the funds described in Subsection (2)(a);

(c) all repayments made of funds described in Subsection (2)(a), including the total amount recovered; and

(d) the division's compliance with the recommendations made in the December 2010 Performance Audit of Utah Medicaid Provider Cost Control published by the Office of Legislative Auditor General.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-18-605. Utah Office of Internal Audit and Program Integrity.

The Utah Office of Internal Audit and Program Integrity:

(1) may not be placed within the division;

(2) shall be placed directly under, and report directly to, the executive director of the Department of Health; and

(3) shall have full access to all records of the division.

Enacted by Chapter 362, 2011 General Session

26-18a-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Children" or "child" means a person under the age of 18.

(2) "Committee" means the Kurt Oscarson Children's Organ Transplant Coordinating Committee.

(3) "Restricted account" means the Kurt Oscarson Children's Organ Transplant Account created in Section 26-18a-4.

Amended by Chapter 278, 2010 General Session

26-18a-2. Creation and membership of Kurt Oscarson Children's Organ Transplant Coordinating Committee -- Expenses.

(1) There is created the Kurt Oscarson Children's Organ Transplant Coordinating Committee.

(2) The committee shall have five members representing the following:

(a) the executive director of the Department of Health or his designee;

(b) two representatives from public or private agencies and organizations concerned with providing support and financial assistance to the children and families of children who need organ transplants; and

(c) two individuals who have had organ transplants, have children who have had organ transplants, who work with families or children who have had or are awaiting organ transplants, or community leaders or volunteers who have demonstrated an interest in working with families or children in need of organ transplants.

(3) (a) The governor shall appoint the committee members and designate the chair from among the committee members.

(b) (i) Except as required by Subsection (3)(b)(ii), each member shall serve a four-year term.

(ii) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (3)(b)(i), the governor shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of the committee members are staggered so that approximately half of the committee is appointed every two years.

(4) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but, at the executive director's discretion, may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

(a) Section 63A-3-106;

(b) Section 63A-3-107; and

(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

(5) The Department of Health shall provide support staff for the committee.

Amended by Chapter 286, 2010 General Session

26-18a-3. Purpose of committee.

(1) The committee shall work to:

(a) provide financial assistance for initial medical expenses of children who need organ transplants;

(b) obtain the assistance of volunteer and public service organizations; and

(c) fund activities as the committee designates for the purpose of educating the public about the need for organ donors.

(2) (a) The committee is responsible for awarding financial assistance funded by the restricted account.

(b) The financial assistance awarded by the committee under Subsection (1)(a) shall be in the form of interest free loans. The committee may establish terms for repayment of the loans, including a waiver of the requirement to repay any awards if, in

the committee's judgment, repayment of the loan would impose an undue financial burden on the recipient.

(c) In making financial awards under Subsection (1)(a), the committee shall consider:

(i) need;

(ii) coordination with or enhancement of existing services or financial assistance, including availability of insurance or other state aid;

(iii) the success rate of the particular organ transplant procedure needed by the child; and

(iv) the extent of the threat to the child's life without the organ transplant.

(3) The committee may only provide the assistance described in this section to children who have resided in Utah, or whose legal guardians have resided in Utah for at least six months prior to the date of assistance under this section.

(4) (a) The committee may expend up to 5% of its annual appropriation for administrative costs associated with the allocation of funds from the restricted account.

(b) The administrative costs shall be used for the costs associated with staffing the committee and for State Tax Commission costs in implementing Section 59-10-1308.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-18a-4. Creation of Kurt Oscarson Children's Organ Transplant Account.

(1) There is created a restricted account within the General Fund known as the "Kurt Oscarson Children's Organ Transplant Account." Private contributions received under this section and Section 59-10-1308 shall be deposited into the restricted account to be used only for the programs and purposes described in Section 26-18a-3.

(2) Money shall be appropriated from the restricted account to the committee in accordance with Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act.

(3) In addition to funds received under Section 59-10-1308, the committee may accept transfers, grants, gifts, bequests, or any money made available from any source to implement this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 278, 2010 General Session

26-18b-101. Organ Donation Contribution Fund created.

(1) (a) There is created an expendable special revenue fund known as the Organ Donation Contribution Fund.

(b) The Organ Donation Contribution Fund shall consist of:

(i) private contributions;

(ii) donations or grants from public or private entities;

(iii) voluntary donations collected under Sections 41-1a-230.5 and 53-3-214.7; and

(iv) interest and earnings on fund money.

(c) The cost of administering the Organ Donation Contribution Fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(2) The Department of Health shall:

(a) administer the funds deposited in the Organ Donation Contribution Fund; and

(b) select qualified organizations and distribute the funds in the Organ Donation Contribution Fund in accordance with Subsection (3).

(3) (a) The funds in the Organ Donation Contribution Fund may be distributed to a selected organization that:

(i) promotes and supports organ donation;

(ii) assists in maintaining and operating a statewide organ donation registry; and

(iii) provides donor awareness education.

(b) An organization that meets the criteria of Subsections (3)(a)(i) through (iii) may apply to the Department of Health, in a manner prescribed by the department, to receive a portion of the money contained in the Organ Donation Contribution Fund.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session
Amended by Chapter 400, 2013 General Session

26-19-1. Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Medical Benefits Recovery Act."

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-19-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Annuity" shall have the same meaning as provided in Section 31A-1-301.

(2) "Claim" means:

(a) a request or demand for payment; or

(b) a cause of action for money or damages arising under any law.

(3) "Employee welfare benefit plan" means a medical insurance plan developed by an employer under 29 U.S.C. Section 1001, et seq., the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 as amended.

(4) "Estate" means, regarding a deceased recipient:

(a) all real and personal property or other assets included within a decedent's estate as defined in Section 75-1-201;

(b) the decedent's augmented estate as defined in Section 75-2-203; and

(c) that part of other real or personal property in which the decedent had a legal interest at the time of death including assets conveyed to a survivor, heir, or assign of the decedent through joint tenancy, tenancy in common, survivorship, life estate, living trust, or other arrangement.

(5) "Health insurance entity" means:

(a) an insurer;

(b) a person who administers, manages, provides, offers, sells, carries, or underwrites health insurance, as defined in Section 31A-1-301;

(c) a self-insured plan;

(d) a group health plan, as defined in Subsection 607(1) of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974;

(e) a service benefit plan;
(f) a managed care organization;
(g) a pharmacy benefit manager;
(h) an employee welfare benefit plan; or
(i) a person who is, by statute, contract, or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service.
(6) "Insurer" includes:
(a) a group health plan as defined in Subsection 607(1) of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974;
(b) a health maintenance organization; and
(c) any entity offering a health service benefit plan.
(7) "Medical assistance" means:
(a) all funds expended for the benefit of a recipient under Title 26, Chapter 18, Medical Assistance Act, or under Titles XVIII and XIX, federal Social Security Act; and
(b) any other services provided for the benefit of a recipient by a prepaid health care delivery system under contract with the department.
(8) "Office of Recovery Services" means the Office of Recovery Services within the Department of Human Services.
(9) "Provider" means a person or entity who provides services to a recipient.
(10) "Recipient" means:
(a) a person who has applied for or received medical assistance from the state;
(b) the guardian, conservator, or other personal representative of a person under Subsection (10)(a) if the person is a minor or an incapacitated person; or
(c) the estate and survivors of a person under Subsection (10)(a) if the person is deceased.
(11) "State plan" means the state Medicaid program as enacted in accordance with Title XIX, federal Social Security Act.
(12) "Third party" includes:
(a) an individual, institution, corporation, public or private agency, trust, estate, insurance carrier, employee welfare benefit plan, health maintenance organization, health service organization, preferred provider organization, governmental program such as Medicare, CHAMPUS, and workers' compensation, which may be obligated to pay all or part of the medical costs of injury, disease, or disability of a recipient, unless any of these are excluded by department rule; and
(b) a spouse or a parent who:
(i) may be obligated to pay all or part of the medical costs of a recipient under law or by court or administrative order; or
(ii) has been ordered to maintain health, dental, or accident and health insurance to cover medical expenses of a spouse or dependent child by court or administrative order.
(13) "Trust" shall have the same meaning as provided in Section 75-1-201.

Amended by Chapter 64, 2007 General Session

26-19-3. Program established by department -- Promulgation of rules.
(1) The department shall establish and maintain a program for the recoupment of

medical assistance.

(2) The department may promulgate rules to implement the purposes of this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 34, 1984 General Session

26-19-4.5. Assignment of rights to benefits.

(1) (a) To the extent that medical assistance is actually provided to a recipient, all benefits for medical services or payments from a third party otherwise payable to or on behalf of a recipient are assigned by operation of law to the department if the department provides, or becomes obligated to provide, medical assistance, regardless of who made application for the benefits on behalf of the recipient.

(b) The assignment:

(i) authorizes the department to submit its claim to the third party and authorizes payment of benefits directly to the department; and

(ii) is effective for all medical assistance.

(2) The department may recover the assigned benefits or payments in accordance with Section 26-19-5 and as otherwise provided by law.

(3) The assignment of benefits includes medical support and third party payments ordered, decreed, or adjudged by any court of this state or any other state or territory of the United States. That assignment is not in lieu of, and does not supersede or alter any other court order, decree, or judgment.

(4) When an assignment takes effect, the recipient is entitled to receive medical assistance, and the benefits paid to the department are a reimbursement to the department.

Amended by Chapter 145, 1998 General Session

26-19-4.7. Health insurance entity -- Duties related to state claims for Medicaid payment or recovery.

As a condition of doing business in the state, a health insurance entity shall:

(1) with respect to a person who is eligible for, or is provided, medical assistance under the state plan, upon the request of the Department of Health, provide information to determine:

(a) during what period the person, or the spouse or dependent of the person, may be or may have been, covered by the health insurance entity; and

(b) the nature of the coverage that is or was provided by the health insurance entity described in Subsection (1)(a), including the name, address, and identifying number of the plan;

(2) accept the state's right of recovery and the assignment to the state of any right of a person to payment from a party for an item or service for which payment has been made under the state plan;

(3) respond to any inquiry by the Department of Health regarding a claim for payment for any health care item or service that is submitted no later than three years after the day on which the health care item or service is provided; and

(4) not deny a claim submitted by the Department of Health solely on the basis

of the date of submission of the claim, the type or format of the claim form, or failure to present proper documentation at the point-of-sale that is the basis for the claim, if:

(a) the claim is submitted no later than three years after the day on which the item or service is furnished; and

(b) any action by the Department of Health to enforce the rights of the state with respect to the claim is commenced no later than six years after the day on which the claim is submitted.

Enacted by Chapter 64, 2007 General Session

26-19-5. Recovery of medical assistance from third party -- Lien -- Notice -- Action -- Compromise or waiver -- Recipient's right to action protected.

(1) (a) When the department provides or becomes obligated to provide medical assistance to a recipient that a third party is obligated to pay for, the department may recover the medical assistance directly from that third party.

(b) Any claim arising under Subsection (1)(a) or Section 26-19-4.5 to recover medical assistance provided to a recipient is a lien against any proceeds payable to or on behalf of the recipient by that third party. This lien has priority over all other claims to the proceeds, except claims for attorney's fees and costs authorized under Subsection 26-19-7(2)(c)(ii).

(2) (a) The department shall mail or deliver written notice of its claim or lien to the third party at its principal place of business or last-known address.

(b) The notice shall include:

(i) the recipient's name;

(ii) the approximate date of illness or injury;

(iii) a general description of the type of illness or injury; and

(iv) if applicable, the general location where the injury is alleged to have occurred.

(3) The department may commence an action on its claim or lien in its own name, but that claim or lien is not enforceable as to a third party unless:

(a) the third party receives written notice of the department's claim or lien before it settles with the recipient; or

(b) the department has evidence that the third party had knowledge that the department provided or was obligated to provide medical assistance.

(4) The department may:

(a) waive a claim or lien against a third party in whole or in part; or

(b) compromise, settle, or release a claim or lien.

(5) An action commenced under this section does not bar an action by a recipient or a dependent of a recipient for loss or damage not included in the department's action.

(6) The department's claim or lien on proceeds under this section is not affected by the transfer of the proceeds to a trust, annuity, financial account, or other financial instrument.

Amended by Chapter 103, 2005 General Session

26-19-6. Action by department -- Notice to recipient.

(1) (a) Within 30 days after commencing an action under Subsection 26-19-5(3), the department shall give the recipient, his guardian, personal representative, trustee, estate, or survivor, whichever is appropriate, written notice of the action by:

(i) personal service or certified mail to the last known address of the person receiving the notice; or

(ii) if no last-known address is available, by publishing a notice:

(A) once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the recipient resides; and

(B) in accordance with Section 45-1-101 for three weeks.

(b) Proof of service shall be filed in the action.

(c) The recipient may intervene in the department's action at any time before trial.

(2) The notice required by Subsection (1) shall name the court in which the action is commenced and advise the recipient of:

(a) the right to intervene in the proceeding;

(b) the right to obtain a private attorney; and

(c) the department's right to recover medical assistance directly from the third party.

Amended by Chapter 388, 2009 General Session

26-19-7. Notice of claim by recipient -- Department response -- Conditions for proceeding -- Collection agreements -- Department's right to intervene -- Department's interests protected -- Remitting funds -- Disbursements -- Liability and penalty for noncompliance.

(1) (a) A recipient may not file a claim, commence an action, or settle, compromise, release, or waive a claim against a third party for recovery of medical costs for an injury, disease, or disability for which the department has provided or has become obligated to provide medical assistance, without the department's written consent as provided in Subsection (2)(b) or (4).

(b) For purposes of Subsection (1)(a), consent may be obtained if:

(i) a recipient who files a claim, or commences an action against a third party notifies the department in accordance with Subsection (1)(d) within 10 days of making the claim or commencing an action; or

(ii) an attorney, who has been retained by the recipient to file a claim, or commence an action against a third party, notifies the department in accordance with Subsection (1)(d) of the recipient's claim:

(A) within 30 days after being retained by the recipient for that purpose; or

(B) within 30 days from the date the attorney either knew or should have known that the recipient received medical assistance from the department.

(c) Service of the notice of claim to the department shall be made by certified mail, personal service, or by e-mail in accordance with Rule 5 of the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure, to the director of the Office of Recovery Services.

(d) The notice of claim shall include the following information:

(i) the name of the recipient;

(ii) the recipient's Social Security number;
(iii) the recipient's date of birth;
(iv) the name of the recipient's attorney if applicable;
(v) the name or names of individuals or entities against whom the recipient is making the claim, if known;
(vi) the name of the third party's insurance carrier, if known;
(vii) the date of the incident giving rise to the claim; and
(viii) a short statement identifying the nature of the recipient's claim.
(2) (a) Within 30 days of receipt of the notice of the claim required in Subsection (1), the department shall acknowledge receipt of the notice of the claim to the recipient or the recipient's attorney and shall notify the recipient or the recipient's attorney in writing of the following:
(i) if the department has a claim or lien pursuant to Section 26-19-5 or has become obligated to provide medical assistance; and
(ii) whether the department is denying or granting written consent in accordance with Subsection (1)(a).
(b) The department shall provide the recipient's attorney the opportunity to enter into a collection agreement with the department, with the recipient's consent, unless:
(i) the department, prior to the receipt of the notice of the recipient's claim pursuant to Subsection (1), filed a written claim with the third party, the third party agreed to make payment to the department before the date the department received notice of the recipient's claim, and the agreement is documented in the department's record; or
(ii) there has been a failure by the recipient's attorney to comply with any provision of this section by:
(A) failing to comply with the notice provisions of this section;
(B) failing or refusing to enter into a collection agreement;
(C) failing to comply with the terms of a collection agreement with the department; or
(D) failing to disburse funds owed to the state in accordance with this section.
(c) (i) The collection agreement shall be:
(A) consistent with this section and the attorney's obligation to represent the recipient and represent the state's claim; and
(B) state the terms under which the interests of the department may be represented in an action commenced by the recipient.
(ii) If the recipient's attorney enters into a written collection agreement with the department, or includes the department's claim in the recipient's claim or action pursuant to Subsection (4), the department shall pay attorney's fees at the rate of 33.3% of the department's total recovery and shall pay a proportionate share of the litigation expenses directly related to the action.
(d) The department is not required to enter into a collection agreement with the recipient's attorney for collection of personal injury protection under Subsection 31A-22-302(2).
(3) (a) If the department receives notice pursuant to Subsection (1), and notifies the recipient and the recipient's attorney that the department will not enter into a collection agreement with the recipient's attorney, the recipient may proceed with the

recipient's claim or action against the third party if the recipient excludes from the claim:

(i) any medical expenses paid by the department; or

(ii) any medical costs for which the department is obligated to provide medical assistance.

(b) When a recipient proceeds with a claim under Subsection (3)(a), the recipient shall provide written notice to the third party of the exclusion of the department's claim for expenses under Subsection (3)(a)(i) or (ii).

(4) If the department receives notice pursuant to Subsection (1), and does not respond within 30 days to the recipient or the recipient's attorney, the recipient or the recipient's attorney:

(a) may proceed with the recipient's claim or action against the third party;

(b) may include the state's claim in the recipient's claim or action; and

(c) may not negotiate, compromise, settle, or waive the department's claim without the department's consent.

(5) The department has an unconditional right to intervene in an action commenced by a recipient against a third party for the purpose of recovering medical costs for which the department has provided or has become obligated to provide medical assistance.

(6) (a) If the recipient proceeds without complying with the provisions of this section, the department is not bound by any decision, judgment, agreement, settlement, or compromise rendered or made on the claim or in the action.

(b) The department may recover in full from the recipient or any party to which the proceeds were made payable all medical assistance which it has provided and retains its right to commence an independent action against the third party, subject to Subsection 26-19-5(3).

(7) Any amounts assigned to and recoverable by the department pursuant to Sections 26-19-4.5 and 26-19-5 collected directly by the recipient shall be remitted to the Bureau of Medical Collections within the Office of Recovery Services no later than five business days after receipt.

(8) (a) Any amounts assigned to and recoverable by the department pursuant to Sections 26-19-4.5 and 26-19-5 collected directly by the recipient's attorney shall be remitted to the Bureau of Medical Collections within the Office of Recovery Services no later than 30 days after the funds are placed in the attorney's trust account.

(b) The date by which the funds shall be remitted to the department may be modified based on agreement between the department and the recipient's attorney.

(c) The department's consent to another date for remittance may not be unreasonably withheld.

(d) If the funds are received by the recipient's attorney, no disbursements shall be made to the recipient or the recipient's attorney until the department's claim has been paid.

(9) A recipient or recipient's attorney who knowingly and intentionally fails to comply with this section is liable to the department for:

(a) the amount of the department's claim or lien pursuant to Subsection (5);

(b) a penalty equal to 10% of the amount of the department's claim; and

(c) attorney fees and litigation expenses related to recovering the department's claim.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-19-8. Statute of limitations -- Survival of right of action -- Insurance policy not to limit time allowed for recovery.

(1) (a) Subject to Subsection (6), action commenced by the department under this chapter against a health insurance entity shall be commenced within:

(i) subject to Subsection (7), six years after the day on which the department submits the claim for recovery or payment for the health care item or service upon which the action is based; or

(ii) six months after the date of the last payment for medical assistance, whichever is later.

(b) An action against any other third party, the recipient, or anyone to whom the proceeds are payable shall be commenced within:

(i) four years after the date of the injury or onset of the illness; or

(ii) six months after the date of the last payment for medical assistance, whichever is later.

(2) The death of the recipient does not abate any right of action established by this chapter.

(3) (a) No insurance policy issued or renewed after June 1, 1981, may contain any provision that limits the time in which the department may submit its claim to recover medical assistance benefits to a period of less than 24 months from the date the provider furnishes services or goods to the recipient.

(b) No insurance policy issued or renewed after April 30, 2007, may contain any provision that limits the time in which the department may submit its claim to recover medical assistance benefits to a period of less than that described in Subsection (1)(a).

(4) The provisions of this section do not apply to Section 26-19-13.5.

(5) The provisions of this section supercede any other sections regarding the time limit in which an action shall be commenced, including Section 75-7-509.

(6) (a) Subsection (1)(a) extends the statute of limitations on a cause of action described in Subsection (1)(a) that was not time-barred on or before April 30, 2007.

(b) Subsection (1)(a) does not revive a cause of action that was time-barred on or before April 30, 2007.

(7) An action described in Subsection (1)(a) may not be commenced if the claim for recovery or payment described in Subsection (1)(a)(i) is submitted later than three years after the day on which the health care item or service upon which the claim is based was provided.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-19-9. Employee benefit plans.

As allowed pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 1144, an employee benefit plan may not include any provision that has the effect of limiting or excluding coverage or payment for any health care for an individual who would otherwise be covered or entitled to benefits or services under the terms of the employee benefit plan based on the fact that the individual is eligible for or is provided services under the state plan.

Enacted by Chapter 145, 1993 General Session

26-19-9.5. Availability of insurance policy.

If the third party does not pay the department's claim or lien within 30 days from the date the claim or lien is received, the third party shall:

(1) provide a written explanation if the claim is denied;

(2) specifically describe and request any additional information from the department that is necessary to process the claim; and

(3) provide the department or its agent a copy of any relevant or applicable insurance or benefit policy.

Enacted by Chapter 72, 2004 General Session

26-19-9.7. Legal recognition of electronic claims records.

Pursuant to Title 46, Chapter 4, Uniform Electronic Transactions Act:

(1) a claim submitted to the department for payment may not be denied legal effect, enforceability, or admissibility as evidence in any court in any civil action because it is in electronic form; and

(2) a third party shall accept an electronic record of payments by the department for medical services on behalf of a recipient as evidence in support of the department's claim.

Enacted by Chapter 72, 2004 General Session

26-19-13.5. Estate and trust recovery.

(1) Upon a recipient's death, the department may recover from the recipient's estate and any trust, in which the recipient is the grantor and a beneficiary, medical assistance correctly provided for the benefit of the recipient when the recipient was 55 years of age or older if, at the time of death, the recipient has no:

(a) surviving spouse; or

(b) child:

(i) younger than 21 years of age; or

(ii) who is blind or has a permanent and total disability.

(2) (a) The amount of medial assistance correctly provided for the benefit of a recipient and recoverable under this section is a lien against the estate of the deceased recipient or any trust when the recipient is the grantor and a beneficiary.

(b) The lien holds the same priority as reasonable and necessary medical expenses of the last illness as provided in Section 75-3-805.

(3) (a) The department shall perfect the lien by filing a notice in the court of appropriate jurisdiction for the amount of the lien, in the same manner as a creditor's claim is filed, prior to final distribution.

(b) The department may file an amended lien prior to the entry of the final order closing the estate.

(4) Claims against a deceased recipient's inter vivos trust shall be presented in accordance with Sections 75-7-509 and 75-7-510.

(5) Any trust provision that denies recovery for medical assistance is void at the time of its making.

(6) Nothing in this section affects the right of the department to recover Medicaid assistance before a recipient's death under Section 26-19-4.5 or Section 26-19-13.7.

Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-19-13.7. Recovery from recipient of incorrectly provided medical assistance.

The department may:

(1) recover medical assistance incorrectly provided, whether due to administrative or factual error or fraud, from the recipient or his estate; and

(2) pursuant to a judgment, impose a lien against real property of the recipient.

Enacted by Chapter 145, 1998 General Session

26-19-14. Insurance policies not to deny or reduce benefits of persons eligible for state medical assistance -- Exemptions.

(1) A policy of accident or sickness insurance issued or renewed after May 12, 1981, may not contain any provision denying or reducing benefits because services are rendered to an insured or dependent who is eligible for or receiving medical assistance from the state.

(2) After May 12, 1981, no association, corporation, or organization may deliver, issue for delivery, or renew any subscriber's contract which contains any provisions denying or reducing benefits because services are rendered to a subscriber or dependent who is eligible for or receiving medical assistance from the state.

(3) After May 12, 1981, no association, corporation, business, or organization authorized to do business in this state and which provides or pays for any health care benefits may deny or reduce benefits because services are rendered to a beneficiary who is eligible for or receiving medical assistance from the state.

(4) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), (2), or (3), the Utah State Public Employees Health Program, administered by the Utah State Retirement Board, is not required to reimburse any agency of state government for custodial care which the agency provides, through its staff or facilities, to members of the Utah State Public Employees Health Program.

(5) This section is subject to the provisions of Subsection 31A-22-610.5(3).

Amended by Chapter 102, 1995 General Session

26-19-15. Attorney general or county attorney to represent department.

The attorney general or a county attorney shall represent the department in any action commenced under this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 34, 1984 General Session

26-19-16. Department's right to attorney's fees and costs.

In any action brought by the department under this chapter in which it prevails, the department shall recover along with the principal sum and interest, a reasonable attorney's fee and costs incurred.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-19-17. Application of provisions contrary to federal law prohibited.

In no event shall any provision contained in this chapter be applied contrary to existing federal law.

Amended by Chapter 34, 1984 General Session

26-19-19. Direct payment to the department by third party.

(1) Any third party required to make payment to the department pursuant to this chapter shall make the payment directly to the department or its designee.

(2) The department may negotiate a payment or payment instrument it receives in connection with Subsection (1) without the cosignature or other participation of the recipient or any other party.

Enacted by Chapter 145, 1998 General Session

26-20-1. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Utah False Claims Act."

Amended by Chapter 48, 2007 General Session

26-20-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Benefit" means the receipt of money, goods, or any other thing of pecuniary value.

(2) "Claim" means any request or demand for money or property:

(a) made to any:

(i) employee, officer, or agent of the state;

(ii) contractor with the state; or

(iii) grantee or other recipient, whether or not under contract with the state; and

(b) if:

(i) any portion of the money or property requested or demanded was issued from or provided by the state; or

(ii) the state will reimburse the contractor, grantee, or other recipient for any portion of the money or property.

(3) "False statement" or "false representation" means a wholly or partially untrue statement or representation which is:

(a) knowingly made; and

(b) a material fact with respect to the claim.

(4) "Knowing" and "knowingly":

(a) for purposes of criminal prosecutions for violations of this chapter, is one of

the culpable mental states described in Subsection 26-20-9(1); and

(b) for purposes of civil prosecutions for violations of this chapter, is the required culpable mental state as defined in Subsection 26-20-9.5(1).

(5) "Medical benefit" means a benefit paid or payable to a recipient or a provider under a program administered by the state under:

(a) Titles V and XIX of the federal Social Security Act;

(b) Title X of the federal Public Health Services Act;

(c) the federal Child Nutrition Act of 1966 as amended by P.L. 94-105; and

(d) any programs for medical assistance of the state.

(6) "Person" means an individual, corporation, unincorporated association, professional corporation, partnership, or other form of business association.

Amended by Chapter 48, 2007 General Session

26-20-3. False statement or representation relating to medical benefits.

(1) A person may not make or cause to be made a false statement or false representation of a material fact in an application for medical benefits.

(2) A person may not make or cause to be made a false statement or false representation of a material fact for use in determining rights to a medical benefit.

(3) A person, who having knowledge of the occurrence of an event affecting the person's initial or continued right to receive a medical benefit or the initial or continued right of any other person on whose behalf the person has applied for or is receiving a medical benefit, may not conceal or fail to disclose that event with intent to obtain a medical benefit to which the person or any other person is not entitled or in an amount greater than that to which the person or any other person is entitled.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-20-4. Kickbacks or bribes prohibited.

(1) For purposes of this section, kickback or bribe:

(a) includes rebates, compensation, or any other form of remuneration which is:

(i) direct or indirect;

(ii) overt or covert; or

(iii) in cash or in kind; and

(b) does not include a rebate paid to the state under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1396r-8 or any state supplemental rebates.

(2) A person may not solicit, offer, pay, or receive a kickback or bribe in return for or to induce:

(a) the purchasing, leasing, or ordering of any goods or services for which payment is or may be made in whole or in part pursuant to a medical benefit program; or

(b) the referral of an individual to another person for the furnishing of any goods or services for which payment is or may be made in whole or in part pursuant to a medical benefit program.

Repealed and Re-enacted by Chapter 48, 2007 General Session

26-20-5. False statements or false representations relating to qualification of health institution or facility prohibited -- Felony.

(1) A person may not knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly make, induce, or seek to induce, the making of a false statement or false representation of a material fact with respect to the conditions or operation of an institution or facility in order that the institution or facility may qualify, upon initial certification or upon recertification, as a hospital, skilled nursing facility, intermediate care facility, or home health agency.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a second degree felony.

Amended by Chapter 48, 2007 General Session

26-20-6. Conspiracy to defraud prohibited.

A person may not enter into an agreement, combination, or conspiracy to defraud the state by obtaining or aiding another to obtain the payment or allowance of a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim for a medical benefit.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-20-7. False claims for medical benefits prohibited.

(1) A person may not make or present or cause to be made or presented to an employee or officer of the state a claim for a medical benefit:

(a) which is wholly or partially false, fictitious, or fraudulent;

(b) for services which were not rendered or for items or materials which were not delivered;

(c) which misrepresents the type, quality, or quantity of items or services rendered;

(d) representing charges at a higher rate than those charged by the provider to the general public;

(e) for items or services which the person or the provider knew were not medically necessary in accordance with professionally recognized standards;

(f) which has previously been paid;

(g) for services also covered by one or more private sources when the person or provider knew of the private sources without disclosing those sources on the claim; or

(h) where a provider:

(i) unbundles a product, procedure, or group of procedures usually and customarily provided or performed as a single billable product or procedure into artificial components or separate procedures; and

(ii) bills for each component of the product, procedure, or group of procedures:

(A) as if they had been provided or performed independently and at separate times; and

(B) the aggregate billing for the components exceeds the amount otherwise billable for the usual and customary single product or procedure.

(2) In addition to the prohibitions in Subsection (1), a person may not:

(a) fail to credit the state for payments received from other sources;

(b) recover or attempt to recover payment in violation of the provider agreement from:

(i) a recipient under a medical benefit program; or
(ii) the recipient's family;
(c) falsify or alter with intent to deceive, any report or document required by state or federal law, rule, or Medicaid provider agreement;
(d) retain any unauthorized payment as a result of acts described by this section; or
(e) aid or abet the commission of any act prohibited by this section.

Amended by Chapter 48, 2007 General Session

26-20-8. Knowledge of past acts not necessary to establish fact that false statement or representation knowingly made.

In prosecution under this chapter, it is not necessary to show that the person had knowledge of similar acts having been performed in the past on the part of persons acting on his behalf nor to show that the person had actual notice that the acts by the persons acting on his behalf occurred to establish the fact that a false statement or representation was knowingly made.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-20-9. Criminal penalties.

(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b) the culpable mental state required for a criminal violation of this chapter is knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly as defined in Section 76-2-103.
(b) The culpable mental state required for a criminal violation of this chapter for kickbacks and bribes under Section 26-20-4 is knowingly and intentionally as defined in Section 76-2-103.
(2) The punishment for a criminal violation of any provision of this chapter, except as provided under Section 26-20-5, is determined by the cumulative value of the funds or other benefits received or claimed in the commission of all violations of a similar nature, and not by each separate violation.
(3) Punishment for criminal violation of this chapter, except as provided under Section 26-20-5, is a felony of the second degree, felony of the third degree, class A misdemeanor, or class B misdemeanor based on the dollar amounts as prescribed by Subsection 76-6-412(1) for theft of property and services.

Amended by Chapter 48, 2007 General Session

26-20-9.5. Civil penalties.

(1) The culpable mental state required for a civil violation of this chapter is "knowing" or "knowingly" which:
(a) means that person, with respect to information:
(i) has actual knowledge of the information;
(ii) acts in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information; or
(iii) acts in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the information; and
(b) does not require a specific intent to defraud.

(2) Any person who violates this chapter shall, in all cases, in addition to other penalties provided by law, be required to:

(a) make full and complete restitution to the state of all damages that the state sustains because of the person's violation of this chapter;

(b) pay to the state its costs of enforcement of this chapter in that case, including the cost of investigators, attorneys, and other public employees, as determined by the state; and

(c) pay to the state a civil penalty equal to:

(i) three times the amount of damages that the state sustains because of the person's violation of this chapter; and

(ii) not less than $5,000 or more than $10,000 for each claim filed or act done in violation of this chapter.

(3) Any civil penalties assessed under Subsection (2) shall be awarded by the court as part of its judgment in both criminal and civil actions.

(4) A criminal action need not be brought against a person in order for that person to be civilly liable under this section.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-20-10. Revocation of license of assisted living facility -- Appointment of receiver.

(1) If the license of an assisted living facility is revoked for violation of this chapter, the county attorney may file a petition with the district court for the county in which the facility is located for the appointment of a receiver.

(2) The district court shall issue an order to show cause why a receiver should not be appointed returnable within five days after the filing of the petition.

(3) If the court finds that the facts warrant the granting of the petition, the court shall appoint a receiver to take charge of the facility. The court may determine fair compensation for the receiver.

(4) A receiver appointed pursuant to this section shall have the powers and duties prescribed by the court.

Amended by Chapter 192, 1998 General Session

26-20-11. Presumption based on paid state warrant -- Value of medical benefits -- Repayment of benefits.

(1) In any civil or criminal action brought under this chapter, a paid state warrant, made payable to the order of a party, creates a presumption that the party received funds from the state.

(2) In any civil or criminal action brought under this chapter, the value of the benefits received shall be the ordinary or usual charge for similar benefits in the private sector.

(3) In any criminal action under this chapter, the repayment of funds or other benefits obtained in violation of the provisions of this chapter does not constitute a defense to, or grounds for dismissal of that action.

Enacted by Chapter 46, 1986 General Session

26-20-12. Violation of other laws.

(1) The provisions of this chapter are:

(a) not exclusive, and the remedies provided for in this chapter are in addition to any other remedies provided for under:

(i) any other applicable law; or

(ii) common law; and

(b) to be liberally construed and applied to:

(i) effectuate the chapter's remedial and deterrent purposes; and

(ii) serve the public interest.

(2) If any provision of this chapter or the application of this chapter to any person or circumstance is held unconstitutional:

(a) the remaining provisions of this chapter are not affected; and

(b) the application of this chapter to other persons or circumstances are not affected.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-20-13. Medicaid fraud enforcement.

(1) This chapter shall be enforced in accordance with this section.

(2) The department is responsible for:

(a) (i) investigating and prosecuting suspected civil violations of this chapter; or

(ii) referring suspected civil violations of this chapter to the attorney general for investigation and prosecution; and

(b) promptly referring suspected criminal violations of this chapter to the attorney general for criminal investigation and prosecution.

(3) The attorney general has:

(a) concurrent jurisdiction with the department for investigating and prosecuting suspected civil violations of this chapter; and

(b) exclusive jurisdiction to investigate and prosecute all suspected criminal violations of this chapter.

(4) The department and the attorney general share concurrent civil enforcement authority under this chapter and may enter into an interagency agreement regarding the investigation and prosecution of violations of this chapter in accordance with this section, the requirements of Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, and applicable federal regulations.

(5) Any violation of this chapter which comes to the attention of any state government officer or agency shall be reported to the attorney general or the department. All state government officers and agencies shall cooperate with and assist in any prosecution for violation of this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 48, 2007 General Session

26-20-14. Investigations -- Civil investigative demands.

(1) The attorney general may take investigative action under Subsection (2) if

the attorney general has reason to believe that:

(a) a person has information or custody or control of documentary material relevant to the subject matter of an investigation of an alleged violation of this chapter;

(b) a person is committing, has committed, or is about to commit a violation of this chapter; or

(c) it is in the public interest to conduct an investigation to ascertain whether or not a person is committing, has committed, or is about to commit a violation of this chapter.

(2) In taking investigative action, the attorney general may:

(a) require the person to file on a prescribed form a statement in writing, under oath or affirmation describing:

(i) the facts and circumstances concerning the alleged violation of this chapter; and

(ii) other information considered necessary by the attorney general;

(b) examine under oath a person in connection with the alleged violation of this chapter; and

(c) in accordance with Subsections (7) through (18), execute in writing, and serve on the person, a civil investigative demand requiring the person to produce the documentary material and permit inspection and copying of the material.

(3) The attorney general may not release or disclose information that is obtained under Subsection (2)(a) or (b), or any documentary material or other record derived from the information obtained under Subsection (2)(a) or (b), except:

(a) by court order for good cause shown;

(b) with the consent of the person who provided the information;

(c) to an employee of the attorney general or the department;

(d) to an agency of this state, the United States, or another state;

(e) to a special assistant attorney general representing the state in a civil action;

(f) to a political subdivision of this state; or

(g) to a person authorized by the attorney general to receive the information.

(4) The attorney general may use documentary material derived from information obtained under Subsection (2)(a) or (b), or copies of that material, as the attorney general determines necessary in the enforcement of this chapter, including presentation before a court.

(5) (a) If a person fails to file a statement as required by Subsection (2)(a) or fails to submit to an examination as required by Subsection (2)(b), the attorney general may file in district court a complaint for an order to compel the person to within a period stated by court order:

(i) file the statement required by Subsection (2)(a); or

(ii) submit to the examination required by Subsection (2)(b).

(b) Failure to comply with an order entered under Subsection (5)(a) is punishable as contempt.

(6) A civil investigative demand shall:

(a) state the rule or statute under which the alleged violation of this chapter is being investigated;

(b) describe the:

(i) general subject matter of the investigation; and

(ii) class or classes of documentary material to be produced with reasonable specificity to fairly indicate the documentary material demanded;

(c) designate a date within which the documentary material is to be produced; and

(d) identify an authorized employee of the attorney general to whom the documentary material is to be made available for inspection and copying.

(7) A civil investigative demand may require disclosure of any documentary material that is discoverable under the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure.

(8) Service of a civil investigative demand may be made by:

(a) delivering an executed copy of the demand to the person to be served or to a partner, an officer, or an agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process on behalf of that person;

(b) delivering an executed copy of the demand to the principal place of business in this state of the person to be served; or

(c) mailing by registered or certified mail an executed copy of the demand addressed to the person to be served:

(i) at the person's principal place of business in this state; or

(ii) if the person has no place of business in this state, to the person's principal office or place of business.

(9) Documentary material demanded in a civil investigative demand shall be produced for inspection and copying during normal business hours at the office of the attorney general or as agreed by the person served and the attorney general.

(10) The attorney general may not produce for inspection or copying or otherwise disclose the contents of documentary material obtained pursuant to a civil investigative demand except:

(a) by court order for good cause shown;

(b) with the consent of the person who produced the information;

(c) to an employee of the attorney general or the department;

(d) to an agency of this state, the United States, or another state;

(e) to a special assistant attorney general representing the state in a civil action;

(f) to a political subdivision of this state; or

(g) to a person authorized by the attorney general to receive the information.

(11) (a) With respect to documentary material obtained pursuant to a civil investigative demand, the attorney general shall prescribe reasonable terms and conditions allowing such documentary material to be available for inspection and copying by the person who produced the material or by an authorized representative of that person.

(b) The attorney general may use such documentary material or copies of it as the attorney general determines necessary in the enforcement of this chapter, including presentation before a court.

(12) A person may file a complaint, stating good cause, to extend the return date for the demand or to modify or set aside the demand. A complaint under this Subsection (12) shall be filed in district court before the earlier of:

(a) the return date specified in the demand; or

(b) the 20th day after the date the demand is served.

(13) Except as provided by court order, a person who has been served with a

civil investigative demand shall comply with the terms of the demand.

(14) (a) A person who has committed a violation of this chapter in relation to the Medicaid program in this state or to any other medical benefit program administered by the state has submitted to the jurisdiction of this state.

(b) Personal service of a civil investigative demand under this section may be made on the person described in Subsection (14)(a) outside of this state.

(15) This section does not limit the authority of the attorney general to conduct investigations or to access a person's documentary materials or other information under another state or federal law, the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure, or the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

(16) The attorney general may file a complaint in district court for an order to enforce the civil investigative demand if:

(a) a person fails to comply with a civil investigative demand; or

(b) copying and reproduction of the documentary material demanded:

(i) cannot be satisfactorily accomplished; and

(ii) the person refuses to surrender the documentary material.

(17) If a complaint is filed under Subsection (16), the court may determine the matter presented and may enter an order to enforce the civil investigative demand.

(18) Failure to comply with a final order entered under Subsection (17) is punishable by contempt.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-20-15. Limitation of actions -- Civil acts antedating this section -- Civil burden of proof -- Estoppel -- Joint civil liability -- Venue.

(1) An action under this chapter may not be brought after the later of:

(a) six years after the date on which the violation was committed; or

(b) three years after the date an official of the state charged with responsibility to act in the circumstances discovers the violation, but in no event more than 10 years after the date on which the violation was committed.

(2) A civil action brought under this chapter may be brought for acts occurring prior to the effective date of this section if the limitations period set forth in Subsection (1) has not lapsed.

(3) In any civil action brought under this chapter the state shall be required to prove by a preponderance of evidence, all essential elements of the cause of action including damages.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a final judgment rendered in favor of the state in any criminal proceeding under this chapter, whether upon a verdict after trial or upon a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, shall estop the defendant from denying the essential elements of the offense in any civil action under this chapter which involves the same transaction.

(5) Civil liability under this chapter shall be joint and several for a violation committed by two or more persons.

(6) Any action brought by the state under this chapter shall be brought in district court in Salt Lake County or in any county where the defendant resides or does business.

Enacted by Chapter 48, 2007 General Session

26-21-1. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act."

Amended by Chapter 209, 1997 General Session

26-21-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Abortion clinic" means a type I abortion clinic or a type II abortion clinic.

(2) "Activities of daily living" means essential activities including:

(a) dressing;

(b) eating;

(c) grooming;

(d) bathing;

(e) toileting;

(f) ambulation;

(g) transferring; and

(h) self-administration of medication.

(3) "Ambulatory surgical facility" means a freestanding facility, which provides surgical services to patients not requiring hospitalization.

(4) "Assistance with activities of daily living" means providing of or arranging for the provision of assistance with activities of daily living.

(5) (a) "Assisted living facility" means:

(i) a type I assisted living facility, which is a residential facility that provides assistance with activities of daily living and social care to two or more residents who:

(A) require protected living arrangements; and

(B) are capable of achieving mobility sufficient to exit the facility without the assistance of another person; and

(ii) a type II assisted living facility, which is a residential facility with a home-like setting that provides an array of coordinated supportive personal and health care services available 24 hours per day to residents who have been assessed under department rule to need any of these services.

(b) Each resident in a type I or type II assisted living facility shall have a service plan based on the assessment, which may include:

(i) specified services of intermittent nursing care;

(ii) administration of medication; and

(iii) support services promoting residents' independence and self sufficiency.

(6) "Birthing center" means a freestanding facility, receiving maternal clients and providing care during pregnancy, delivery, and immediately after delivery.

(7) "Committee" means the Health Facility Committee created in Section 26-1-7.

(8) "Consumer" means any person not primarily engaged in the provision of health care to individuals or in the administration of facilities or institutions in which such care is provided and who does not hold a fiduciary position, or have a fiduciary interest in any entity involved in the provision of health care, and does not receive, either

directly or through his spouse, more than 1/10 of his gross income from any entity or activity relating to health care.

(9) "End stage renal disease facility" means a facility which furnishes staff-assisted kidney dialysis services, self-dialysis services, or home-dialysis services on an outpatient basis.

(10) "Freestanding" means existing independently or physically separated from another health care facility by fire walls and doors and administrated by separate staff with separate records.

(11) "General acute hospital" means a facility which provides diagnostic, therapeutic, and rehabilitative services to both inpatients and outpatients by or under the supervision of physicians.

(12) "Governmental unit" means the state, or any county, municipality, or other political subdivision or any department, division, board, or agency of the state, a county, municipality, or other political subdivision.

(13) (a) "Health care facility" means general acute hospitals, specialty hospitals, home health agencies, hospices, nursing care facilities, residential-assisted living facilities, birthing centers, ambulatory surgical facilities, small health care facilities, abortion clinics, facilities owned or operated by health maintenance organizations, end stage renal disease facilities, and any other health care facility which the committee designates by rule.

(b) "Health care facility" does not include the offices of private physicians or dentists, whether for individual or group practice, except that it does include an abortion clinic.

(14) "Health maintenance organization" means an organization, organized under the laws of any state which:

(a) is a qualified health maintenance organization under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 300e-9; or

(b) (i) provides or otherwise makes available to enrolled participants at least the following basic health care services: usual physician services, hospitalization, laboratory, x-ray, emergency, and preventive services and out-of-area coverage;

(ii) is compensated, except for copayments, for the provision of the basic health services listed in Subsection (14)(b)(i) to enrolled participants by a payment which is paid on a periodic basis without regard to the date the health services are provided and which is fixed without regard to the frequency, extent, or kind of health services actually provided; and

(iii) provides physicians' services primarily directly through physicians who are either employees or partners of such organizations, or through arrangements with individual physicians or one or more groups of physicians organized on a group practice or individual practice basis.

(15) (a) "Home health agency" means an agency, organization, or facility or a subdivision of an agency, organization, or facility which employs two or more direct care staff persons who provide licensed nursing services, therapeutic services of physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, medical social services, or home health aide services on a visiting basis.

(b) "Home health agency" does not mean an individual who provides services under the authority of a private license.

(16) "Hospice" means a program of care for the terminally ill and their families which occurs in a home or in a health care facility and which provides medical, palliative, psychological, spiritual, and supportive care and treatment.

(17) "Nursing care facility" means a health care facility, other than a general acute or specialty hospital, constructed, licensed, and operated to provide patient living accommodations, 24-hour staff availability, and at least two of the following patient services:

(a) a selection of patient care services, under the direction and supervision of a registered nurse, ranging from continuous medical, skilled nursing, psychological, or other professional therapies to intermittent health-related or paraprofessional personal care services;

(b) a structured, supportive social living environment based on a professionally designed and supervised treatment plan, oriented to the individual's habilitation or rehabilitation needs; or

(c) a supervised living environment that provides support, training, or assistance with individual activities of daily living.

(18) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association, or joint stock association, and the legal successor thereof.

(19) "Resident" means a person 21 years of age or older who:

(a) as a result of physical or mental limitations or age requires or requests services provided in an assisted living facility; and

(b) does not require intensive medical or nursing services as provided in a hospital or nursing care facility.

(20) "Small health care facility" means a four to 16 bed facility that provides licensed health care programs and services to residents.

(21) "Specialty hospital" means a facility which provides specialized diagnostic, therapeutic, or rehabilitative services in the recognized specialty or specialties for which the hospital is licensed.

(22) "Substantial compliance" means in a department survey of a licensee, the department determines there is an absence of deficiencies which would harm the physical health, mental health, safety, or welfare of patients or residents of a licensee.

(23) "Type I abortion clinic" means a facility, including a physician's office, but not including a general acute or specialty hospital, that:

(a) performs abortions, as defined in Section 76-7-301, during the first trimester of pregnancy; and

(b) does not perform abortions, as defined in Section 76-7-301, after the first trimester of pregnancy.

(24) "Type II abortion clinic" means a facility, including a physician's office, but not including a general acute or specialty hospital, that:

(a) performs abortions, as defined in Section 76-7-301, after the first trimester of pregnancy; or

(b) performs abortions, as defined in Section 76-7-301, during the first trimester of pregnancy and after the first trimester of pregnancy.

Amended by Chapter 161, 2011 General Session

26-21-2.1. Services.

(1) General acute hospitals and specialty hospitals shall remain open and be continuously ready to receive patients 24 hours of every day in a year and have an attending medical staff consisting of one or more physicians licensed to practice medicine and surgery under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice Act, or Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act.

(2) A specialty hospital shall provide on-site all basic services required of a general acute hospital that are needed for the diagnosis, therapy, or rehabilitation offered to or required by patients admitted to or cared for in the facility.

(3) (a) A home health agency shall provide at least licensed nursing services or therapeutic services directly through the agency employees.

(b) A home health agency may provide additional services itself or under arrangements with another agency, organization, facility, or individual.

Amended by Chapter 209, 1997 General Session

26-21-3. Health Facility Committee -- Members -- Terms -- Organization -- Meetings.

(1) The Health Facility Committee created by Section 26-1-7 consists of 15 members appointed by the governor with the consent of the Senate. The appointed members shall be knowledgeable about health care facilities and issues. The membership of the committee is:

(a) one physician, licensed to practice medicine and surgery under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice Act, or Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, who is a graduate of a regularly chartered medical school;

(b) one hospital administrator;

(c) one hospital trustee;

(d) one representative of a freestanding ambulatory surgical facility;

(e) one representative of an ambulatory surgical facility that is affiliated with a hospital;

(f) two representatives of the nursing care facility industry;

(g) one registered nurse, licensed to practice under Title 58, Chapter 31b, Nurse Practice Act;

(h) one professional in the field of intellectual disabilities not affiliated with a nursing care facility;

(i) one licensed architect or engineer with expertise in health care facilities;

(j) two representatives of assisted living facilities licensed under this chapter;

(k) two consumers, one of whom has an interest in or expertise in geriatric care; and

(l) one representative from either a home health care provider or a hospice provider.

(2) (a) Except as required by Subsection (2)(b), members shall be appointed for a term of four years.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (2)(a), the governor shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of committee members are staggered so that approximately half of the committee

is appointed every two years.

(c) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term by the governor, giving consideration to recommendations made by the committee, with the consent of the Senate.

(d) A member may not serve more than two consecutive full terms or 10 consecutive years, whichever is less. However, a member may continue to serve as a member until he is replaced.

(e) The committee shall annually elect from its membership a chair and vice chair.

(f) The committee shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently as determined by the chair or five members of the committee.

(g) Eight members constitute a quorum. A vote of the majority of the members present constitutes action of the committee.

Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-21-4. Per diem and travel expenses of committee members.

A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

(1) Section 63A-3-106;

(2) Section 63A-3-107; and

(3) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

Amended by Chapter 286, 2010 General Session

26-21-5. Duties of committee.

The committee shall:

(1) make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act:

(a) for the licensing of health-care facilities; and

(b) requiring the submission of architectural plans and specifications for any proposed new health-care facility or renovation to the department for review;

(2) approve the information for applications for licensure pursuant to Section 26-21-9;

(3) advise the department as requested concerning the interpretation and enforcement of the rules established under this chapter; and

(4) advise, consult, cooperate with, and provide technical assistance to other agencies of the state and federal government, and other states and affected groups or persons in carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-21-6. Duties of department.

(1) The department shall:

(a) enforce rules established pursuant to this chapter;

(b) authorize an agent of the department to conduct inspections of health care facilities pursuant to this chapter;

(c) collect information authorized by the committee that may be necessary to ensure that adequate health care facilities are available to the public;

(d) collect and credit fees for licenses as free revenue;

(e) collect and credit fees for conducting plan reviews as dedicated credits;

(f) (i) collect and credit fees for conducting clearance under Chapter 21, Part 2, Clearance for Direct Patient Access; and

(ii) beginning July 1, 2012:

(A) up to $105,000 of the fees collected under Subsection (1)(f)(i) are dedicated credits; and

(B) the fees collected for background checks under Subsection 26-21-204(6) and Section 26-21-205 shall be transferred to the Department of Public Safety to reimburse the Department of Public Safety for its costs in conducting the federal background checks;

(g) designate an executive secretary from within the department to assist the committee in carrying out its powers and responsibilities;

(h) establish reasonable standards for criminal background checks by public and private entities;

(i) recognize those public and private entities that meet the standards established pursuant to Subsection (1)(h); and

(j) provide necessary administrative and staff support to the committee.

(2) The department may:

(a) exercise all incidental powers necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

(b) review architectural plans and specifications of proposed health care facilities or renovations of health care facilities to ensure that the plans and specifications conform to rules established by the committee; and

(c) make rules as necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter, except as authority is specifically delegated to the committee.

Amended by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-6.5. Licensing of an abortion clinic -- Rulemaking authority -- Fee.

(1) Beginning on April 1, 2012, a type I abortion clinic may not operate in the state without a license issued by the department to operate a type I abortion clinic.

(2) A type II abortion clinic may not operate in the state without a license issued by the department to operate a type II abortion clinic.

(3) (a) The department shall make rules establishing minimum health, safety, sanitary, and recordkeeping requirements for:

(i) a type I abortion clinic; and

(ii) a type II abortion clinic.

(b) The rules established under Subsection (3)(a) shall take effect on April 1, 2012.

(4) Beginning on April 1, 2012, in order to receive and maintain a license described in this section, an abortion clinic shall:

(a) apply for a license on a form prescribed by the department;

(b) satisfy and maintain the minimum health, safety, sanitary, and recordkeeping requirements established under Subsection (3)(a) that relate to the type of abortion clinic licensed;

(c) comply with the recordkeeping and reporting requirements of Subsection 76-7-305.6(4) and Section 76-7-313;

(d) comply with the requirements of Title 76, Chapter 7, Part 3, Abortion;

(e) pay the annual licensing fee; and

(f) cooperate with inspections conducted by the department.

(5) Beginning on April 1, 2012, the department shall, at least twice per year, inspect each abortion clinic in the state to ensure that the abortion clinic is complying with all statutory and licensing requirements relating to the abortion clinic. At least one of the inspections shall be made without providing notice to the abortion clinic.

(6) Beginning on April 1, 2012, the department shall charge an annual license fee, set by the department in accordance with the procedures described in Section 63J-1-504, to an abortion clinic in an amount that will pay for the cost of the licensing requirements described in this section and the cost of inspecting abortion clinics.

(7) The department shall deposit the licensing fees described in this section in the General Fund as a dedicated credit to be used solely to pay for the cost of the licensing requirements described in this section and the cost of inspecting abortion clinics.

Enacted by Chapter 161, 2011 General Session

26-21-7. Exempt facilities.

This chapter does not apply to:

(1) a dispensary or first aid facility maintained by any commercial or industrial plant, educational institution, or convent;

(2) a health care facility owned or operated by an agency of the United States;

(3) the office of a physician or dentist whether it is an individual or group practice, except that it does apply to an abortion clinic;

(4) a health care facility established or operated by any recognized church or denomination for the practice of religious tenets administered by mental or spiritual means without the use of drugs, whether gratuitously or for compensation, if it complies with statutes and rules on environmental protection and life safety;

(5) any health care facility owned or operated by the Department of Corrections, created in Section 64-13-2; and

(6) a residential facility providing 24-hour care:

(a) that does not employ direct care staff;

(b) in which the residents of the facility contract with a licensed hospice agency to receive end-of-life medical care; and

(c) that meets other requirements for an exemption as designated by administrative rule.

Amended by Chapter 161, 2011 General Session

26-21-8. License required -- Not assignable or transferable -- Posting -- Expiration and renewal -- Time for compliance by operating facilities.

(1) (a) A person or governmental unit acting severally or jointly with any other person or governmental unit, may not establish, conduct, or maintain a health care facility in this state without receiving a license from the department as provided by this chapter and the rules of the committee.

(b) This Subsection (1) does not apply to facilities that are exempt under Section 26-21-7.

(2) A license issued under this chapter is not assignable or transferable.

(3) The current license shall at all times be posted in each health care facility in a place readily visible and accessible to the public.

(4) (a) The department may issue a license for a period of time not to exceed 12 months from the date of issuance for an abortion clinic and not to exceed 24 months from the date of issuance for other health care facilities that meet the provisions of this chapter and department rules adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(b) Each license expires at midnight on the day designated on the license as the expiration date, unless previously revoked by the department.

(c) The license shall be renewed upon completion of the application requirements, unless the department finds the health care facility has not complied with the provisions of this chapter or the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(5) A license may be issued under this section only for the operation of a specific facility at a specific site by a specific person.

(6) Any health care facility in operation at the time of adoption of any applicable rules as provided under this chapter shall be given a reasonable time for compliance as determined by the committee.

Amended by Chapter 161, 2011 General Session

26-21-9. Application for license -- Information required -- Public records.

(1) An application for license shall be made to the department in a form prescribed by the department. The application and other documentation requested by the department as part of the application process shall require such information as the committee determines necessary to ensure compliance with established rules.

(2) Information received by the department in reports and inspections shall be public records, except the information may not be disclosed if it directly or indirectly identifies any individual other than the owner or operator of a health facility (unless disclosure is required by law) or if its disclosure would otherwise constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(3) Information received by the department from a health care facility, pertaining to that facility's accreditation by a voluntary accrediting organization, shall be private data except for a summary prepared by the department related to licensure standards.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-21-11. Violations -- Denial or revocation of license -- Restricting or prohibiting new admissions -- Monitor.

If the department finds a violation of this chapter or any rules adopted pursuant to this chapter the department may take one or more of the following actions:

(1) serve a written statement of violation requiring corrective action, which shall include time frames for correction of all violations;

(2) deny or revoke a license if it finds:

(a) there has been a failure to comply with the rules established pursuant to this chapter;

(b) evidence of aiding, abetting, or permitting the commission of any illegal act; or

(c) conduct adverse to the public health, morals, welfare, and safety of the people of the state;

(3) restrict or prohibit new admissions to a health care facility or revoke the license of a health care facility for:

(a) violation of any rule adopted under this chapter; or

(b) permitting, aiding, or abetting the commission of any illegal act in the health care facility;

(4) place a department representative as a monitor in the facility until corrective action is completed;

(5) assess to the facility the cost incurred by the department in placing a monitor;

(6) assess an administrative penalty as allowed by Subsection 26-23-6(1)(a); or

(7) issue a cease and desist order to the facility.

Amended by Chapter 209, 1997 General Session

26-21-12. Issuance of new license after revocation -- Restoration.

(1) If a license is revoked, the department may issue a new license only after it determines by inspection that the facility has corrected the conditions that were the basis of revocation and that the facility complies with all provisions of this chapter and applicable rules.

(2) If the department does not renew a license because of noncompliance with the provisions of this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter, the department may issue a new license only after the facility complies with all renewal requirements and the department determines that the interests of the public will not be jeopardized.

Amended by Chapter 209, 1997 General Session

26-21-13. License issued to facility in compliance or substantial compliance with chapter and rules.

(1) The department shall issue a standard license for a health care facility which is found to be in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and with all applicable rules adopted by the committee.

(2) The department may issue a provisional or conditional license for a health care facility which is in substantial compliance if the interests of the public will not be jeopardized.

Amended by Chapter 114, 1990 General Session

26-21-13.5. Intermediate care facilities for people with an intellectual disability -- Licensing.

(1) (a) It is the Legislature's intent that a person with a developmental disability be provided with an environment and surrounding that, as closely as possible, resembles small community-based, homelike settings, to allow those persons to have the opportunity, to the maximum extent feasible, to exercise their full rights and responsibilities as citizens.

(b) It is the Legislature's purpose, in enacting this section, to provide assistance and opportunities to enable a person with a developmental disability to achieve the person's maximum potential through increased independence, productivity, and integration into the community.

(2) After July 1, 1990, the department may only license intermediate care beds for people with an intellectual disability in small health care facilities.

(3) The department may define by rule "small health care facility" for purposes of licensure under this section and adopt rules necessary to carry out the requirements and purposes of this section.

(4) This section does not apply to the renewal of a license or the licensure to a new owner of any facility that was licensed on or before July 1, 1990, and that licensure has been maintained without interruption.

Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-21-13.6. Rural hospital -- Optional service designation.

(1) The Legislature finds that:

(a) the rural citizens of this state need access to hospitals and primary care clinics;

(b) financial stability of remote-rural hospitals and their integration into remote-rural delivery networks is critical to ensure the continued viability of remote-rural health care; and

(c) administrative simplicity is essential for providing large benefits to small-scale remote-rural providers who have limited time and resources.

(2) After July 1, 1995, the department may grant variances to remote-rural acute care hospitals for specific services currently required for licensure under general hospital standards established by department rule.

(3) For purposes of this section, "remote-rural hospitals" are hospitals that are in a county with less than 20 people per square mile.

Enacted by Chapter 321, 1995 General Session

26-21-14. Closing facility -- Appeal.

(1) If the department finds a condition in any licensed health care facility that is a clear hazard to the public health, the department may immediately order that facility closed and may prevent the entrance of any resident or patient onto the premises of that facility until the condition is eliminated.

(2) Parties aggrieved by the actions of the department under this section may obtain an adjudicative proceeding and judicial review.

Amended by Chapter 114, 1990 General Session

26-21-15. Action by department for injunction.

Notwithstanding the existence of any other remedy, the department may, in the manner provided by law, upon the advice of the attorney general, who shall represent the department in the proceedings, maintain an action in the name of the state for injunction or other process against any person or governmental unit to restrain or prevent the establishment, conduct, management, or operation of a health care facility which is in violation of this chapter or rules adopted by the committee.

Amended by Chapter 114, 1990 General Session

26-21-16. Operating facility in violation of chapter a misdemeanor.

In addition to the penalties in Section 26-23-6, any person owning, establishing, conducting, maintaining, managing, or operating a health care facility in violation of this chapter is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

Amended by Chapter 347, 2009 General Session

26-21-17. Department agency of state to contract for certification of facilities under Social Security Act.

The department is the sole agency of the state authorized to enter into a contract with the United States government for the certification of health care facilities under Title XVIII and Title XIX of the Social Security Act, and any amendments thereto.

Amended by Chapter 114, 1990 General Session

26-21-19. Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Act not amended.

The provisions of this chapter do not amend, affect, or alter the provisions of Title 31A, Chapter 28.

Amended by Chapter 242, 1985 General Session

26-21-20. Requirement for hospitals to provide statements of itemized charges to patients.

(1) For purposes of this section, "hospital" includes:

(a) an ambulatory surgical facility;

(b) a general acute hospital; and

(c) a specialty hospital.

(2) A hospital shall provide a statement of itemized charges to any patient receiving medical care or other services from that hospital.

(3) (a) The statement shall be provided to the patient or the patient's personal representative or agent at the hospital's expense, personally, by mail, or by verifiable electronic delivery after the hospital receives an explanation of benefits from a third

party payer which indicates the patient's remaining responsibility for the hospital charges.

(b) If the statement is not provided to a third party, it shall be provided to the patient as soon as possible and practicable.

(4) The statement required by this section:

(a) shall itemize each of the charges actually provided by the hospital to the patient;

(b) (i) shall include the words in bold "THIS IS THE BALANCE DUE AFTER PAYMENT FROM YOUR HEALTH INSURER"; or

(ii) shall include other appropriate language if the statement is sent to the patient under Subsection (3)(b); and

(c) may not include charges of physicians who bill separately.

(5) The requirements of this section do not apply to patients who receive services from a hospital under Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

(6) Nothing in this section prohibits a hospital from sending an itemized billing statement to a patient before the hospital has received an explanation of benefits from an insurer. If a hospital provides a statement of itemized charges to a patient prior to receiving the explanation of benefits from an insurer, the itemized statement shall be marked in bold: "DUPLICATE: DO NOT PAY" or other appropriate language.

Amended by Chapter 11, 2009 General Session

26-21-21. Authentication of medical records.

Any entry in a medical record compiled or maintained by a health care facility may be authenticated by identifying the author of the entry by:

(1) a signature including first initial, last name, and discipline; or

(2) the use of a computer identification process unique to the author that definitively identifies the author.

Enacted by Chapter 31, 1992 General Session

26-21-22. Reporting of disciplinary information -- Immunity from liability.

A health care facility licensed under this chapter which reports disciplinary information on a licensed nurse to the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing within the Department of Commerce as required by Section 58-31b-702 is entitled to the immunity from liability provided by that section.

Enacted by Chapter 288, 1998 General Session

26-21-23. Licensing of non-Medicaid nursing care facility beds.

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 26-21-2, for purposes of this section "nursing care facility" and "small health care facility":

(a) mean the following facilities licensed by the department under this chapter:

(i) skilled nursing homes;

(ii) intermediate care facilities; or

(iii) small health care facilities with four to 16 beds functioning as a skilled

nursing home; and

(b) does not mean:

(i) an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded;

(ii) a critical access hospital that meets the criteria of 42 U.S.C. 1395i-4(c)(2) (1998);

(iii) a small health care facility that is hospital based; or

(iv) a small health care facility other than a skilled nursing home with 16 beds or less.

(2) Except as provided in Subsection (5), a new nursing care facility shall be approved for a health facility license only if the applicant proves to the division that:

(a) the facility will be Medicaid certified under the provisions of Section 26-18-503;

(b) the facility will have at least 100 beds; or

(c) (i) the facility's projected Medicare inpatient revenues do not exceed 49% of the facility's revenues;

(ii) the facility has identified projected non-Medicare inpatient revenue sources; and

(iii) the non-Medicare inpatient revenue sources identified in this Subsection (2)(c)(iii) will constitute at least 51% of the revenues as demonstrated through an independently certified feasibility study submitted and paid for by the facility and provided to the division.

(3) The division may not approve the addition of licensed beds in an existing nursing care facility unless the nursing care facility satisfies the criteria established in Subsection (2).

(4) The department may make rules to administer and enforce this part in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(5) The provisions of Subsection (2) do not apply to a nursing care facility that has:

(a) filed an application with the department and paid all applicable fees to the department on or before February 28, 2007; and

(b) submitted to the department the working drawings, as defined by the department by administrative rule, on or before July 1, 2008.

Amended by Chapter 60, 2013 General Session

26-21-24. Prohibition against bed banking by nursing care facilities for Medicaid reimbursement.

(1) For purposes of this section:

(a) "bed banking" means the designation of a nursing care facility bed as not part of the facility's operational bed capacity; and

(b) "nursing care facility" is as defined in Subsection 26-21-23(1).

(2) Beginning July 1, 2008, the department shall, for purposes of Medicaid reimbursement under Chapter 18, Part 1, Medical Assistance Programs, prohibit the banking of nursing care facility beds.

Enacted by Chapter 347, 2008 General Session

26-21-25. Patient identity protection.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "EMTALA" means the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act.

(b) "Health professional office" means:

(i) a physician's office; or

(ii) a dental office.

(c) "Medical facility" means:

(i) a general acute hospital;

(ii) a specialty hospital;

(iii) a home health agency;

(iv) a hospice;

(v) a nursing care facility;

(vi) a residential-assisted living facility;

(vii) a birthing center;

(viii) an ambulatory surgical facility;

(ix) a small health care facility;

(x) an abortion clinic;

(xi) a facility owned or operated by a health maintenance organization;

(xii) an end stage renal disease facility;

(xiii) a health care clinic; or

(xiv) any other health care facility that the committee designates by rule.

(2) (a) In order to discourage identity theft and health insurance fraud, and to reduce the risk of medical errors caused by incorrect medical records, a medical facility or a health professional office shall request identification from an individual prior to providing in-patient or out-patient services to the individual.

(b) If the individual who will receive services from the medical facility or a health professional office lacks the legal capacity to consent to treatment, the medical facility or a health professional office shall request identification:

(i) for the individual who lacks the legal capacity to consent to treatment; and

(ii) from the individual who consents to treatment on behalf of the individual described in Subsection (2)(b)(i).

(3) A medical facility or a health professional office:

(a) that is subject to EMTALA:

(i) may not refuse services to an individual on the basis that the individual did not provide identification when requested; and

(ii) shall post notice in its emergency department that informs a patient of the patient's right to treatment for an emergency medical condition under EMTALA;

(b) may not be penalized for failing to ask for identification;

(c) is not subject to a private right of action for failing to ask for identification; and

(d) may document or confirm patient identity by:

(i) photograph;

(ii) fingerprinting;

(iii) palm scan; or

(iv) other reasonable means.

(4) The identification described in this section:
(a) is intended to be used for medical records purposes only; and
(b) shall be kept in accordance with the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

Amended by Chapter 218, 2010 General Session

26-21-26. General acute hospital to report prescribed controlled substance poisoning or overdose.

(1) Beginning on July 1, 2012, if a person who is 12 years of age or older is admitted to a general acute hospital for poisoning involving a prescribed controlled substance, the general acute hospital shall, within three business days after the day on which the person is admitted, send a written report to the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, created in Section 58-1-103, that includes:
(a) the patient's name;
(b) each drug or other substance found in the person's system that may have contributed to the poisoning or overdose, if known; and
(c) the name of each person who the general acute hospital has reason to believe may have prescribed a controlled substance described in Subsection (1)(b) to the person, if known.
(2) Nothing in this section may be construed as creating a new cause of action.

Enacted by Chapter 290, 2010 General Session

26-21-27. Consumer access to health care facility charges.

Beginning January 1, 2011, a health care facility licensed under this chapter shall, when requested by a consumer:
(1) make a list of prices charged by the facility available for the consumer that includes the facility's:
(a) in-patient procedures;
(b) out-patient procedures;
(c) the 50 most commonly prescribed drugs in the facility;
(d) imaging services; and
(e) implants; and
(2) provide the consumer with information regarding any discounts the facility provides for:
(a) charges for services not covered by insurance; or
(b) prompt payment of billed charges.

Enacted by Chapter 68, 2010 General Session

26-21-100. Reserved.

Reserved

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-201. Definitions.

As used in this part:

(1) "Clearance" means approval by the department under Section 26-21-203 for an individual to have direct patient access.

(2) "Covered body" means a covered provider, covered contractor, or covered employer.

(3) "Covered contractor" means a person that supplies covered individuals, by contract, to a covered employer or covered provider.

(4) "Covered employer" means an individual who:

(a) engages a covered individual to provide services in a private residence to:

(i) an aged individual, as defined by department rule; or

(ii) a disabled individual, as defined by department rule;

(b) is not a covered provider; and

(c) is not a licensed health care facility within the state.

(5) "Covered individual":

(a) means an individual:

(i) whom a covered body engages; and

(ii) who may have direct patient access;

(b) includes:

(i) a nursing assistant, as defined by department rule;

(ii) a personal care aide, as defined by department rule;

(iii) an individual licensed to engage in the practice of nursing under Title 58, Chapter 31b, Nurse Practice Act;

(iv) a provider of medical, therapeutic, or social services, including a provider of laboratory and radiology services;

(v) an executive;

(vi) administrative staff, including a manager or other administrator;

(vii) dietary and food service staff;

(viii) housekeeping and maintenance staff; and

(ix) any other individual, as defined by department rule, who has direct patient access; and

(c) does not include a student, as defined by department rule, directly supervised by a member of the staff of the covered body or the student's instructor.

(6) "Covered provider" means:

(a) an end stage renal disease facility;

(b) a long-term care hospital;

(c) a nursing care facility;

(d) a small health care facility;

(e) an assisted living facility;

(f) a hospice;

(g) a home health agency; or

(h) a personal care agency.

(7) "Direct patient access" means for an individual to be in a position where the individual could, in relation to a patient or resident of the covered body who engages the individual:

(a) cause physical or mental harm;

(b) commit theft; or
(c) view medical or financial records.
(8) "Engage" means to obtain one's services:
(a) by employment;
(b) by contract;
(c) as a volunteer; or
(d) by other arrangement.
(9) "Long-term care hospital":
(a) means a hospital that is certified to provide long-term care services under the provisions of 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1395tt; and
(b) does not include a critical access hospital, designated under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1395i-4(c)(2).
(10) "Patient" means an individual who receives health care services from one of the following covered providers:
(a) an end stage renal disease facility;
(b) a long-term care hospital;
(c) a hospice;
(d) a home health agency; or
(e) a personal care agency.
(11) "Personal care agency" means a health care facility defined by department rule.
(12) "Resident" means an individual who receives health care services from one of the following covered providers:
(a) a nursing care facility;
(b) a small health care facility;
(c) an assisted living facility; or
(d) a hospice that provides living quarters as part of its services.
(13) "Residential setting" means a place provided by a covered provider:
(a) for residents to live as part of the services provided by the covered provider; and
(b) where an individual who is not a resident also lives.
(14) "Volunteer" means an individual, as defined by department rule, who provides services without pay or other compensation.

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-202. Clearance required.
(1) A covered provider may engage a covered individual only if the individual has clearance.
(2) A covered contractor may supply a covered individual to a covered employer or covered provider only if the individual has clearance.
(3) A covered employer may engage a covered individual who does not have clearance.
(4) (a) Notwithstanding Subsections (1) and (2), if a covered individual does not have clearance, a covered provider may engage the individual or a covered contractor may supply the individual to a covered provider or covered employer:

(i) under circumstances specified by department rule; and
(ii) only while an application for clearance for the individual is pending.
(b) For purposes of Subsection (4)(a), an application is pending if the following have been submitted to the department for the individual:
(i) an application for clearance;
(ii) the personal identification information specified by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(4)(b); and
(iii) any fees established by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(9).

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-203. Department authorized to grant, deny, or revoke clearance -- Department may limit direct patient access.
(1) As provided in Section 26-21-204, the department may grant, deny, or revoke clearance for an individual, including a covered individual.
(2) The department may limit the circumstances under which a covered individual granted clearance may have direct patient access, based on the relationship the factors under Subsection 26-21-204(4)(a) and other mitigating factors may have to patient and resident protection.

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-204. Clearance.
(1) The department shall determine whether to grant clearance for each applicant for whom it receives:
(a) the personal identification information specified by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(4)(b); and
(b) any fees established by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(9).
(2) The department shall establish a procedure for obtaining and evaluating relevant information concerning covered individuals, including fingerprinting the applicant and submitting the prints to the Criminal Investigations and Technical Services Division of the Department of Public Safety for checking against applicable state, regional, and national criminal records files.
(3) The department may review the following sources to determine whether an individual should be granted or retain clearance, which may include:
(a) Department of Public Safety arrest, conviction, and disposition records described in Title 53, Chapter 10, Criminal Investigations and Technical Services Act, including information in state, regional, and national records files;
(b) juvenile court arrest, adjudication, and disposition records, as allowed under Section 78A-6-209;
(c) federal criminal background databases available to the state;
(d) the Department of Human Services' Division of Child and Family Services Licensing Information System described in Section 62A-4a-1006;
(e) child abuse or neglect findings described in Section 78A-6-323;
(f) the Department of Human Services' Division of Aging and Adult Services vulnerable adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation database described in Section

62A-3-311.1;

(g) registries of nurse aids described in 42 C.F.R. Sec. 483.156;

(h) licensing and certification records of individuals licensed or certified by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing under Title 58, Occupations and Professions; and

(i) the List of Excluded Individuals and Entities database maintained by the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General.

(4) The department shall adopt rules that:

(a) specify the criteria the department will use to determine whether an individual is granted or retains clearance:

(i) based on an initial evaluation and ongoing review of information under Subsection (3); and

(ii) including consideration of the relationship the following may have to patient and resident protection:

(A) warrants for arrest;

(B) arrests;

(C) convictions, including pleas in abeyance;

(D) pending diversion agreements;

(E) adjudications by a juvenile court of committing an act that if committed by an adult would be a felony or misdemeanor, if the individual is over 28 years of age and has been convicted, has pleaded no contest, or is subject to a plea in abeyance or diversion agreement for a felony or misdemeanor, or the individual is under 28 years of age; and

(F) any other findings under Subsection (3); and

(b) specify the personal identification information that must be submitted by an individual or covered body with an application for clearance, including:

(i) the applicant's Social Security number; and

(ii) except for applicants under 18 years of age, fingerprints.

(5) For purposes of Subsection (4)(a), the department shall classify a crime committed in another state according to the closest matching crime under Utah law, regardless of how the crime is classified in the state where the crime was committed.

(6) The Department of Public Safety, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Department of Human Services, the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, and any other state agency or political subdivision of the state:

(a) shall allow the department to review the information the department may review under Subsection (3); and

(b) except for the Department of Public Safety, may not charge the department for access to the information.

(7) The department shall adopt measures to protect the security of the information it reviews under Subsection (3) and strictly limit access to the information to department employees responsible for processing an application for clearance.

(8) The department may disclose personal identification information specified under Subsection (4)(b) to the Department of Human Services to verify that the subject of the information is not identified as a perpetrator or offender in the information sources described in Subsections (3)(d) through (f).

(9) The department may establish fees, in accordance with Section 63J-1-504,

for an application for clearance, which may include:

(a) the cost of obtaining and reviewing information under Subsection (3);

(b) a portion of the cost of creating and maintaining the Direct Access Clearance System database under Section 26-21-209; and

(c) other department costs related to the processing of the application and the ongoing review of information pursuant to Subsection (4)(a) to determine whether clearance should be retained.

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-205. Department of Public Safety -- Retention of information -- Notification of Department of Health.

The Criminal Investigations and Technical Services Division within the Department of Public Safety shall:

(1) retain, separate from other division records, personal information, including any fingerprints, sent to it by the Department of Health pursuant to Subsection 26-21-204(3)(a); and

(2) notify the Department of Health upon receiving notice that an individual for whom personal information has been retained is the subject of:

(a) a warrant for arrest;

(b) an arrest;

(c) a conviction, including a plea in abeyance; or

(d) a pending diversion agreement.

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-206. Covered providers and covered contractors required to apply for clearance of certain individuals.

(1) As provided in Subsection (2), each covered provider and covered contractor operating in this state shall:

(a) collect from each covered individual it engages, and each individual it intends to engage as a covered individual, the personal identification information specified by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(4)(b); and

(b) submit to the department an application for clearance for the individual, including:

(i) the personal identification information; and

(ii) any fees established by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(9).

(2) Clearance granted for an individual pursuant to an application submitted by a covered provider or a covered contractor is valid until the later of:

(a) two years after the individual is no longer engaged as a covered individual; or

(b) the covered provider's or covered contractor's next license renewal date.

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-207. Covered providers required to apply for clearance for certain

individuals other than residents residing in residential settings -- Certain individuals other than residents prohibited from residing in residential settings without clearance.

(1) A covered provider that provides services in a residential setting shall:

(a) collect the personal identification information specified by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(4)(b) for each individual 12 years of age or older, other than a resident, who resides in the residential setting; and

(b) submit to the department an application for clearance for the individual, including:

(i) the personal identification information; and

(ii) any fees established by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(9).

(2) A covered provider that provides services in a residential setting may allow an individual 12 years of age or older, other than a resident, to reside in the residential setting only if the individual has clearance.

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-208. Application for clearance by individuals.

(1) An individual may apply for clearance by submitting to the department an application, including:

(a) the personal identification information specified by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(4)(b); and

(b) any fees established by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(9).

(2) Clearance granted to an individual who makes application under Subsection (1) is valid for two years unless the department determines otherwise based on its ongoing review under Subsection 26-21-204(4)(a).

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-209. Direct Access database -- Contents -- Use.

(1) The department shall create and maintain a Direct Access Clearance System database, which:

(a) includes the names of individuals for whom the department has received an application for clearance; and

(b) indicates for each applicant whether an application is pending and whether clearance has been granted and retained.

(2) (a) The department shall allow covered providers and covered contractors to access the database electronically.

(b) Data accessible to a covered provider or covered contractor is limited to the information under Subsection (1) for:

(i) covered individuals engaged by the covered provider or covered contractor; and

(ii) individuals:

(A) whom the covered provider or covered contractor could engage as covered individuals; and

(B) who have provided the covered provider or covered contractor with sufficient

personal identification information to uniquely identify the individual in the database.

(c) (i) The department may establish fees, in accordance with Section 63J-1-504, for use of the database by a covered contractor.

(ii) The fees may include, in addition to any fees established by the department under Subsection 26-21-204(9), an initial set-up fee, an ongoing access fee, and a per-use fee.

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21-210. No civil liability.

A covered body is not civilly liable for submitting to the department information required under this part or refusing to employ an individual who does not have clearance to have direct patient access under Section 26-21-203.

Enacted by Chapter 328, 2012 General Session

26-21a-101. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Breast cancer screening mammography" means a standard two-view per breast, low-dose as defined by the National Cancer Institute, radiographic examination of the breasts to detect unsuspected breast cancer using equipment designed and dedicated specifically for mammography.

(2) "Diagnostic mammography" means mammography performed on a woman having suspected breast cancer.

(3) "Facility" means a facility that provides screening or diagnostic breast mammography services.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1991 General Session

26-21a-201. Short title.

This part is known as the "Mammogram Quality Assurance Act."

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1991 General Session

26-21a-203. Department rulemaking authority.

The department shall make rules under Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act:

(1) establishing quality assurance standards for all facilities performing screening or diagnostic mammography and developing mammogram x-ray films, including procedures for clinical follow-up of abnormal mammograms;

(2) providing for:

(a) collection and periodic reporting of mammography examinations and clinical follow-up data to the department;

(b) certification and revocation of certification of mammogram facilities;

(c) inspection of mammogram facilities, including entry of agents of the department into the facilities for inspections;

(d) setting fees for certification; and
(e) an appeal process regarding department certification decisions; and
(3) the following information may be included in mammography results sent to a patient with dense breast tissue:
"Mammography is the only breast cancer screening examination which has been shown in multiple randomized clinical trials to reduce death rate from breast cancer. However, it is not a perfect test, specifically in women with dense breast tissue. Because your mammogram demonstrates that you have dense breast tissue, you may benefit from supplementary screening tests, depending on your personal risk factors and family history. Although other screening tests may find additional cancers, they may not necessarily increase survival. Nevertheless, you should discuss your mammography results with your health care provider. A copy of your mammography report has been sent to your health care provider's office. Please contact your health care provider if you have any questions or concerns about this notice."

Amended by Chapter 338, 2012 General Session

26-21a-204. Mammogram provider certification.
(1) A mammogram may only be performed in a facility the department certifies as meeting:
(a) the qualifications and standards under Section 26-21a-203; and
(b) the registration, licensing, and inspection requirements for radiation sources under Section 19-3-104.
(2) Facilities desiring to perform mammograms shall request certification as a mammogram provider by the department under procedures established by department rule.

Amended by Chapter 286, 2001 General Session

26-21a-205. Department duties.
The department shall:
(1) enforce rules established under this part;
(2) authorize qualified department agents to conduct inspections of mammogram facilities under department rules;
(3) collect and credit fees for certification under Section 63J-1-504; and
(4) provide necessary administrative and staff support to the committee.

Amended by Chapter 183, 2009 General Session

26-21a-301. Breast cancer mortality reduction program.
The department shall create a breast cancer mortality reduction program. The program shall include:
(1) education programs for health professionals regarding skills in cancer screening, diagnosis, referral, treatment, and rehabilitation based on current scientific knowledge;
(2) education programs to assist the public in understanding:

(a) the benefits of regular breast cancer screening;
(b) resources available in the medical care system for cancer screening, diagnosis, referral, treatment, and rehabilitation; and
(c) available options for treatment of breast cancer and the ramifications of each approach; and
(3) subsidized screening mammography for low-income women as determined by the department standards.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1991 General Session

26-21a-302. Cancer Research Restricted Account.

(1) As used in this section, "account" means the Cancer Research Restricted Account created by this section.
(2) There is created in the General Fund a restricted account known as the "Cancer Research Restricted Account."
(3) The account shall be funded by:
(a) contributions deposited into the account in accordance with Section 41-1a-422;
(b) private contributions;
(c) donations or grants from public or private entities; and
(d) interest and earnings on fund money.
(4) The department shall distribute funds in the account to one or more charitable organizations that:
(a) qualify as being tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
(b) have been designated as an official cancer center of the state;
(c) is a National Cancer Institute designated cancer center; and
(d) have as part of its primary mission:
(i) cancer research programs in basic science, translational science, population science, and clinical research to understand cancer from its beginnings; and
(ii) the dissemination and use of knowledge developed by the research described in Subsection (4)(d)(i) for the creation and improvement of cancer detection, treatments, prevention, and outreach programs.
(5) (a) An organization described in Subsection (4) may apply to the department to receive a distribution in accordance with Subsection (4).
(b) An organization that receives a distribution from the department in accordance with Subsection (4) shall expend the distribution only to conduct cancer research for the purpose of making improvements in cancer treatments, cures, detection, and prevention of cancer at the molecular and genetic levels.
(c) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the department may make rules providing procedures for an organization to apply to the department to receive a distribution under Subsection (4).

Amended by Chapter 303, 2011 General Session

26-21a-303. Prostate Cancer Support Restricted Account.

(1) As used in this section, "account" means the Prostate Cancer Support Restricted Account created by this section.

(2) There is created in the General Fund a restricted account known as the "Prostate Cancer Support Restricted Account."

(3) The account shall be funded by:

(a) contributions deposited into the account in accordance with Section 41-1a-422;

(b) private contributions;

(c) donations or grants from public or private entities; and

(d) interest and earnings on fund money.

(4) Subject to appropriation, the department shall distribute funds in the account to one or more charitable organizations that:

(a) qualify as being tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(b) conduct programs that raise awareness of prostate cancer and its dangers; and

(c) provide or support programs for prostate cancer early screening, detection, and prevention efforts.

(5) (a) An organization described in Subsection (4) may apply to the department to receive a distribution in accordance with Subsection (4).

(b) An organization that receives a distribution from the department in accordance with Subsection (4) shall expend the distribution only for programs within the state that:

(i) raise awareness of prostate cancer and its dangers; or

(ii) provide or support early screening, detection, and prevention efforts for prostate cancer.

(c) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the department may make rules providing procedures for an organization to apply to the department to receive a distribution under Subsection (4).

Enacted by Chapter 440, 2011 General Session

26-21b-101. Title.

This chapter is known as "Sexual Assault Victim Protocols."

Enacted by Chapter 266, 2009 General Session

26-21b-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Critical access hospital" means a critical access hospital that meets the criteria of 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1395i-4(c)(2) (1998).

(2) "Designated facility" means:

(a) a freestanding urgent care center;

(b) a general acute hospital; or

(c) a critical access hospital.

(3) "Emergency contraception" means the use of a substance, approved by the

United States Food and Drug Administration, to prevent pregnancy after sexual intercourse.

(4) "Freestanding urgent care center" is as defined in Section 59-12-801.

(5) "General acute hospital" is as defined in Section 26-21-2.

(6) "Physician" means a person:

(a) licensed as a physician under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice Act; or

(b) licensed as a physician under Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act.

(7) "Practitioner" means:

(a) a physician; or

(b) any other person who is permitted by law to prescribe emergency contraception.

(8) "Sexual assault" means any criminal conduct described in Title 76, Chapter 5, Part 4, Sexual Offenses, that may result in a pregnancy.

(9) "Victim of sexual assault" means any person who presents to receive, or receives, medical care in consequence of being subjected to sexual assault.

Amended by Chapter 140, 2010 General Session

26-21b-201. Emergency contraception services for a victim of sexual assault.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a designated facility shall provide the following services to a victim of sexual assault:

(a) provide the victim with written and oral medical information regarding emergency contraception that is unbiased, accurate, and generally accepted by the medical community as being scientifically valid;

(b) orally inform the victim of sexual assault that the victim may obtain emergency contraception at the designated facility;

(c) offer a complete regimen of emergency contraception to a victim of sexual assault;

(d) provide, at the designated facility, emergency contraception to the victim of sexual assault upon her request;

(e) maintain a protocol, prepared by a physician, for the administration of emergency contraception at the designated facility to a victim of sexual assault; and

(f) develop and implement a written policy to ensure that a person is present at the designated facility, or on-call, who:

(i) has authority to dispense or prescribe emergency contraception, independently, or under the protocol described in Subsection (1)(e), to a victim of sexual assault; and

(ii) is trained to comply with the requirements of this section.

(2) A freestanding urgent care center is exempt from the requirements of Subsection (1) if:

(a) there is a general acute hospital or a critical access hospital within 30 miles of the freestanding urgent care center; and

(b) an employee of the freestanding urgent care center provides the victim with:

(i) written and oral medical information regarding emergency contraception that is unbiased, accurate, and generally accepted by the medical community as being scientifically valid; and

(ii) the name and address of the general acute hospital or critical access hospital described in Subsection (2)(a).

(3) A practitioner shall comply with Subsection (4) with regard to a person who is a victim of sexual assault, if the person presents to receive medical care, or receives medical care, from the practitioner at a location that is not a designated facility.

(4) A practitioner described in Subsection (3) shall:

(a) provide the victim with written and oral medical information regarding emergency contraception that is unbiased, accurate, and generally accepted by the medical community as being scientifically valid; and

(b) (i) (A) orally inform the victim of sexual assault that the victim may obtain emergency contraception at the facility where the practitioner is located; and

(B) provide emergency contraception to the victim of sexual assault, if she requests emergency contraception; or

(ii) inform the victim of sexual assault of the nearest location where she may obtain emergency contraception.

Amended by Chapter 140, 2010 General Session

26-21b-301. Investigation and enforcement.

(1) The department may make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to enforce the provisions of this chapter.

(2) The department shall, in an expeditious manner, investigate any complaint received by the department regarding the failure of a health care facility to comply with a requirement of this chapter.

(3) If the department finds a violation of this chapter, or any rules adopted pursuant to this chapter, the department may take one or more of the actions described in Section 26-21-11.

Enacted by Chapter 266, 2009 General Session

26-23-1. Legal advice and representation for department.

(1) The attorney general shall be the legal adviser for the department and the executive director and shall defend them in all actions and proceedings brought against either of them. The county attorney of the county in which a cause of action arises or a public offense occurs shall bring any civil action requested by the executive director to abate a condition which exists in violation of the public health laws or standards, orders, and rules of the department as provided in Section 26-23-6.

(2) The district attorney or county attorney having criminal jurisdiction shall prosecute for the violation of the public health laws or standards, orders, and rules of the department as provided in Section 26-23-6.

(3) If the county attorney or district attorney fails to act, the executive director may bring any such action and shall be represented by the attorney general or, with the approval of the attorney general, by special counsel.

Amended by Chapter 38, 1993 General Session

26-23-2. Administrative review of actions of department or director.

Any person aggrieved by any action or inaction of the department or its executive director may request an adjudicative proceeding by following the procedures and requirements of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-23-3. Violation of public health laws or orders unlawful.

It shall be unlawful for any person, association, or corporation, and the officers thereof:

(1) to willfully violate, disobey, or disregard the provisions of the public health laws or the terms of any lawful notice, order, standard, rule, or regulation issued thereunder; or

(2) to fail to remove or abate from private property under the person's control at his own expense, within 48 hours, or such other reasonable time as the health authorities shall determine, after being ordered to do so by the health authorities, any nuisance, source of filth, cause of sickness, dead animal, health hazard, or sanitation violation within the jurisdiction and control of the department, whether the person, association, or corporation shall be the owner, tenant, or occupant of such property; provided, however, when any such condition is due to an act of God, it shall be removed at public expense; or

(3) to pay, give, present, or otherwise convey to any officer or employee of the department any gift, remuneration or other consideration, directly or indirectly, which such officer or employee is forbidden to receive by the provisions of this chapter;

(4) to fail to make or file reports required by law or rule of the department relating to the existence of disease or other facts and statistics relating to the public health.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-23-4. Unlawful acts by department officers and employees.

It shall be unlawful for any officer or employee of the department:

(1) To accept any gift, remuneration, or other consideration, directly or indirectly, for an incorrect or improper performance of the duties imposed upon him by or in behalf of the department or by the provisions of this chapter.

(2) To perform any work, labor, or services other than the duties assigned to him on behalf of the department during the hours such officer or employee is regularly employed by the department, or to perform his duties as an officer or employee of the department under any condition or arrangement that involves a violation of this or any other law of the state.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-23-5. Unlawful acts concerning certificates, records, and reports -- Unlawful transportation or acceptance of dead human body.

It is unlawful for any person, association, or corporation and the officers of any of them:

(1) to willfully and knowingly make any false statement in a certificate, record, or report required to be filed with the department, or in an application for a certified copy of a vital record, or to willfully and knowingly supply false information intending that the information be used in the preparation of any report, record, or certificate, or an amendment to any of these;

(2) to make, counterfeit, alter, amend, or mutilate any certificate, record, or report required to be filed under this code or a certified copy of the certificate, record, or report without lawful authority and with the intent to deceive;

(3) to willfully and knowingly obtain, possess, use, sell, furnish, or attempt to obtain, possess, use, sell, or furnish to another, for any purpose of deception, any certificate, record, report, or certified copy of any of them, including any that are counterfeited, altered, amended, or mutilated;

(4) without lawful authority, to possess any certificate, record, or report, required by the department or a copy or certified copy of the certificate, record, or report, knowing it to have been stolen or otherwise unlawfully obtained; or

(5) to willfully and knowingly transport or accept for transportation, interment, or other disposition a dead human body without a permit required by law.

Amended by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-23-5.5. Illegal use of birth certificate -- Penalties.

(1) It is a third degree felony for any person to willfully and knowingly:

(a) and with the intent to deceive, obtain, possess, use, sell, furnish, or attempt to obtain, possess, use, sell, or furnish to another any certificate of birth or certified copy of a certificate of birth knowing that the certificate or certified copy was issued upon information which is false in whole or in part or which relates to the birth of another person, whether living or deceased; or

(b) furnish or process a certificate of birth or certified copy of a certificate of birth with the knowledge or intention that it be used for the purpose of deception by a person other than the person to whom the certificate of birth relates.

(2) The specific criminal violations and the criminal penalty under this section take precedence over any more general criminal offense as described in Section 26-23-5.

Enacted by Chapter 202, 1995 General Session

26-23-6. Criminal and civil penalties and liability for violations.

(1) (a) Any person, association, or corporation, or the officers of any of them, who violates any provision of this chapter or lawful orders of the department or a local health department in a criminal proceeding is guilty of a class B misdemeanor for the first violation, and for any subsequent similar violation within two years, is guilty of a class A misdemeanor, except this section does not establish the criminal penalty for

violation of Section 26-23-5.5.

(b) Conviction in a criminal proceeding does not preclude the department or a local health department from assessment of any civil penalty, administrative civil money penalty or to deny, revoke, condition, or refuse to renew a permit, license, or certificate or to seek other injunctive or equitable remedies.

(2) Any person, association, or corporation, or the officers of any of them, who violates any provision of this title or lawful orders of the department or a local health department, or rules adopted under this title by the department:

(a) shall be assessed, in a judicial civil proceeding, a penalty not to exceed the sum of $10,000 per violation; or

(b) in an administrative action in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, or similar procedures adopted by local or county government, a penalty not to exceed the sum of $10,000 per violation.

(3) Assessment of any civil penalty or administrative penalty does not preclude the department or a local health department from seeking criminal penalties or to deny, revoke, impose conditions on, or refuse to renew a permit, license, or certificate or to seek other injunctive or equitable remedies.

(4) In addition to any penalties imposed under Subsection (1), the person, association, or corporation, or the officers of any of them is liable for any expense incurred by the department in removing or abating any health or sanitation violations, including any nuisance, source of filth, cause of sickness, or dead animal.

(5) Each day of violation of a provision of this title, lawful orders of the department or a local health department, or rules adopted by the department under it is a separate violation.

Amended by Chapter 347, 2009 General Session

26-23-7. Application of enforcement procedures and penalties.

Enforcement procedures and penalties provided in this chapter do not apply to other chapters in this title which provide for specific enforcement procedures and penalties.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-23-8. Representatives of department authorized to enter regulated premises.

Authorized representatives of the department upon presentation of appropriate identification shall be authorized to enter upon the premises of properties regulated under this title to perform routine inspections to insure compliance with rules adopted by the department. This section does not authorize the department to inspect private dwellings.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-23-9. Authority of department as to functions transferred from other agencies.

(1) If functions transferred from other agencies are vested by this code in the department, the department shall be the successor in every way, with respect to such functions, except as otherwise provided by this code. Every act done in the exercise of such functions by the department shall have the same force and effect as if done by the agency in which the functions were previously vested.

(2) Whenever any such agency is referred to or designated by law, contract, or other document, the reference or designation shall apply to the department.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-23-10. Religious exemptions from code -- Regulation of state-licensed healing system practice unaffected by code.

(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), nothing in this code shall be construed to compel any person to submit to any medical or dental examination or treatment under the authority of this code when such person, or the parent or guardian of any such person objects to such examination or treatment on religious grounds, or to permit any discrimination against such person on account of such objection.

(b) An exemption from medical or dental examination, described in Subsection (1)(a), may not be granted if the executive director has reasonable cause to suspect a substantial menace to the health of other persons exposed to contact with the unexamined person.

(2) Nothing in this code shall be construed as authorizing the supervision, regulation, or control of the remedial care or treatment of residents in any home or institution conducted for those who rely upon treatment by prayer or spiritual means in accordance with the creed or tenets of any well recognized church or religious denomination, provided the statutes and regulations on sanitation are complied with.

(3) Nothing in this code shall be construed or used to amend any statute now in force pertaining to the scope of practice of any state-licensed healing system.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-23a-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Health care provider" means any person, firm, corporation, or association which furnishes treatment or care to persons who have suffered bodily injury, and includes hospitals, clinics, podiatrists, dentists and dental hygienists, nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians and physicians' assistants, osteopathic physicians, naturopathic practitioners, chiropractors, acupuncturists, paramedics, and emergency medical technicians.

(2) "Injury" does not include any psychological or physical condition brought about solely through the voluntary administration of prescribed controlled substances.

(3) "Law enforcement agency" means the municipal or county law enforcement agency:

(a) having jurisdiction over the location where the injury occurred; or

(b) if the reporting health care provider is unable to identify or contact the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the injury, "law enforcement agency" means

the agency nearest to the location of the reporting health care provider.

(4) "Report to a law enforcement agency" means to report, by telephone or other spoken communication, the facts known regarding an injury subject to reporting under Section 26-23a-2 to the dispatch desk or other staff person designated by the law enforcement agency to receive reports from the public.

Amended by Chapter 23, 1996 General Session

26-23a-2. Injury reporting requirements by health care provider -- Contents of report.

(1) (a) Any health care provider who treats or cares for any person who suffers from any wound or other injury inflicted by the person's own act or by the act of another by means of a knife, gun, pistol, explosive, infernal device, or deadly weapon, or by violation of any criminal statute of this state, shall immediately report to a law enforcement agency the facts regarding the injury.

(b) The report shall state the name and address of the injured person, if known, the person's whereabouts, the character and extent of the person's injuries, and the name, address, and telephone number of the person making the report.

(2) A health care provider may not be discharged, suspended, disciplined, or harassed for making a report pursuant to this section.

(3) A person may not incur any civil or criminal liability as a result of making any report required by this section.

(4) A health care provider who has personal knowledge that the report of a wound or injury has been made in compliance with this section is under no further obligation to make a report regarding that wound or injury under this section.

Amended by Chapter 23, 1996 General Session

26-23a-3. Penalties.

Any health care provider who intentionally or knowingly violates any provision of Section 26-23a-2 is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

Enacted by Chapter 238, 1988 General Session

26-23b-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Detection of Public Health Emergencies Act."

Enacted by Chapter 155, 2002 General Session

26-23b-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Bioterrorism" means:

(a) the intentional use of any microorganism, virus, infectious substance, or biological product to cause death, disease, or other biological malfunction in a human, an animal, a plant, or another living organism in order to influence, intimidate, or coerce the conduct of government or a civilian population; and

(b) includes anthrax, botulism, small pox, plague, tularemia, and viral hemorrhagic fevers.

(2) "Department" means the Department of Health created in Section 26-1-4 and a local health department as defined in Section 26A-1-102.

(3) "Diagnostic information" means a clinical facility's record of individuals who present for treatment, including the reason for the visit, chief complaint, presenting diagnosis, final diagnosis, and any pertinent lab results.

(4) "Epidemic or pandemic disease":

(a) means the occurrence in a community or region of cases of an illness clearly in excess of normal expectancy; and

(b) includes diseases designated by the Department of Health which have the potential to cause serious illness or death.

(5) "Health care provider" shall have the meaning provided for in Section 78B-3-403.

(6) "Public health emergency" means an occurrence or imminent credible threat of an illness or health condition, caused by bioterrorism, epidemic or pandemic disease, or novel and highly fatal infectious agent or biological toxin, that poses a substantial risk of a significant number of human fatalities or incidents of permanent or long-term disability. Such illness or health condition includes an illness or health condition resulting from a natural disaster.

(7) "Reportable emergency illness and health condition" includes the diseases, conditions, or syndromes designated by the Utah Department of Health.

Amended by Chapter 3, 2008 General Session

26-23b-103. Mandatory reporting requirements -- Contents of reports -- Penalties.

(1) (a) A health care provider shall report to the department any case of any person who the provider knows has a confirmed case of, or who the provider believes in his professional judgment is sufficiently likely to harbor any illness or health condition that may be caused by:

(i) bioterrorism;

(ii) epidemic or pandemic disease; or

(iii) novel and highly fatal infectious agents or biological toxins which might pose a substantial risk of a significant number of human fatalities or incidences of permanent or long-term disability.

(b) A health care provider shall immediately submit the report required by Subsection (1)(a) within 24 hours of concluding that a report is required under Subsection (1)(a).

(2) (a) A report required by this section shall be submitted electronically, verbally, or in writing to the department or appropriate local health department.

(b) A report submitted pursuant to Subsection (1) shall include, if known:

(i) diagnostic information on the specific illness or health condition that is the subject of the report, and, if transmitted electronically, diagnostic codes assigned to the visit;

(ii) the patient's name, date of birth, sex, race, occupation, and current home

and work address and phone number;

(iii) the name, address, and phone number of the health care provider; and

(iv) the name, address, and phone number of the reporting individual.

(3) The department may impose a sanction against a health care provider for failure to make a report required by this section only if the department can show by clear and convincing evidence that a health care provider willfully failed to file a report.

Enacted by Chapter 155, 2002 General Session

26-23b-104. Authorization to report.

(1) A health care provider is authorized to report to the department any case of a reportable emergency illness or health condition in any person when:

(a) the health care provider knows of a confirmed case; or

(b) the health care provider believes, based on the health care provider's professional judgment that a person likely harbors a reportable emergency illness or health condition.

(2) A report pursuant to this section shall include, if known:

(a) the name of the facility submitting the report;

(b) a patient identifier that allows linkage with the patient's record for follow-up investigation if needed;

(c) the date and time of visit;

(d) the patient's age and sex;

(e) the zip code of the patient's residence;

(f) the reportable illness or condition detected or suspected;

(g) diagnostic information and, if available, diagnostic codes assigned to the visit; and

(h) whether the patient was admitted to the hospital.

(3) (a) If the department determines that a public health emergency exists, the department may, with the concurrence of the governor and the executive director or in the absence of the executive director, the executive director's designee, issue a public health emergency order and mandate reporting under this section for a limited reasonable period of time, as necessary to respond to the public health emergency.

(b) The department may not mandate reporting under this subsection for more than 90 days. If more than 90 days is needed to abate the public health emergency declared under Subsection (3)(a), the department shall obtain the concurrence of the governor to extend the period of time beyond 90 days.

(4) (a) Unless the provisions of Subsection (3) apply, a health care provider is not subject to penalties for failing to submit a report under this section.

(b) If the provisions of Subsection (3) apply, a health care provider is subject to the penalties of Subsection 26-23b-103(3) for failure to make a report under this section.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-23b-105. Pharmacy reporting requirements.

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection 26-23b-103(1)(a), a pharmacist

shall report unusual drug-related events as described in Subsection (2).

(2) Unusual drug-related events that require a report include:

(a) an unusual increase in the number of prescriptions filled for antimicrobials;

(b) any prescription that treats a disease that has bioterrorism potential if that prescription is unusual or in excess of the expected frequency; and

(c) an unusual increase in the number of requests for information about or sales of over-the-counter pharmaceuticals to treat conditions which may suggest the presence of one of the illnesses or conditions described in Section 26-23b-103 or 26-23b-104 and which are designated by department rule.

(3) (a) A pharmacist shall submit the report required by this section within 24 hours after the pharmacist suspects, in his professional judgement, that an unusual drug-related event has occurred.

(b) If a pharmacy is part of a health care facility subject to the reporting requirements of this chapter, the pharmacist in charge shall make the report under this section on behalf of the health care facility.

(4) (a) The report required by this section shall be submitted in accordance with Subsection 26-23b-103(2)(a).

(b) A report shall include the name and location of the reporting pharmacist, the name and type of pharmaceuticals that are the subject of the unusual increase in use, and if known, the suspected illness or health condition that is the subject of the report.

(5) A pharmacist is subject to the penalties under Subsection 26-23b-103(3) for failing to make a report required by this section.

Enacted by Chapter 155, 2002 General Session

26-23b-106. Medical laboratory reporting requirements.

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection 26-23b-103(1), the director of a medical laboratory located in this state is responsible for reporting results of a laboratory test that confirm a condition or illness described in Subsection 26-23b-103(1) within 24 hours after obtaining the results of the test. This reporting requirement also applies to results obtained on specimens sent to an out-of-state laboratory for analysis.

(2) The director of a medical laboratory located outside this state that receives a specimen obtained inside this state is responsible for reporting the results of any test that confirm a condition or illness described in Subsection 26-23b-103(1), within 24 hours of obtaining the results, provided that the laboratory that performs the test has agreed to the reporting requirements of this state.

(3) If a medical laboratory is part of a health care facility subject to the reporting requirements of this chapter, the director of the medical laboratory shall make the report required by this section on behalf of the health care facility.

(4) The report required by this section shall be submitted in accordance with Subsection 26-23b-103(2).

(5) The director of a medical laboratory is subject to the penalties of Subsection 26-23b-103(3) for failing to make a report required by this section.

Enacted by Chapter 155, 2002 General Session

26-23b-107. Exemptions from liability.

(1) A health care provider may not be discharged, suspended, disciplined, or harassed for making a report pursuant to this chapter.

(2) A health care provider may not incur any civil or criminal liability as a result of making any report under this chapter so long as the report is made in good faith.

Enacted by Chapter 155, 2002 General Session

26-23b-108. Investigation of suspected bioterrorism and diseases.

(1) The department shall:

(a) ascertain the existence of cases of an illness or condition caused by the factors described in Subsections 26-23b-103(1) and 26-23b-104(1);

(b) investigate all such cases for sources of infection or exposure;

(c) ensure that any cases, suspected cases, and exposed persons are subject to proper control measures; and

(d) define the distribution of the suspected illness or health condition.

(2) (a) Acting on information received from the reports required by this chapter, or other reliable information, the department shall identify all individuals thought to have been exposed to an illness or condition described in Subsection 26-23b-103(1).

(b) The department may request information from a health care provider concerning an individual's identifying information as described in Subsection 26-23b-103(2)(b) when:

(i) the department is investigating a potential illness or condition described in Subsection 26-23b-103(1) and the health care provider has not submitted a report to the department with the information requested; or

(ii) the department has received a report from a pharmacist under Section 26-23b-105, a medical laboratory under Section 26-23b-106, or another health care provider under Subsection 26-23b-104(1) and the department believes that further investigation is necessary to protect the public health.

(c) A health care provider shall submit the information requested under this section to the department within 24 hours after receiving a request from the department.

(3) The department shall counsel and interview identified individuals as appropriate to:

(a) assist in the positive identification of other cases and exposed individuals;

(b) develop information relating to the source and spread of the illness or condition; and

(c) obtain the names, addresses, phone numbers, or other identifying information of any other person from whom the illness or health condition may have been contracted and to whom the illness or condition may have spread.

(4) The department shall, for examination purposes, close, evacuate, or decontaminate any facility when the department reasonably believes that such facility or material may endanger the public health due to a condition or illness described in Subsection 26-23b-103(1).

(5) The department will destroy personally identifying health information about an individual collected by the department as a result of a report under this chapter upon

the earlier of:

(a) the department's determination that the information is no longer necessary to carry out an investigation under this chapter; or

(b) 180 days after the information is collected.

Enacted by Chapter 155, 2002 General Session

26-23b-109. Enforcement.

The department may enforce the provisions of this chapter in accordance with existing enforcement laws and regulations.

Enacted by Chapter 155, 2002 General Session

26-23b-110. Information sharing with public safety authorities.

(1) For purposes of this section, "public safety authority" means a local, state, or federal law enforcement authority including the Division of Emergency Management, emergency medical services personnel, and firefighters.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act:

(a) whenever a public safety authority suspects a case of a reportable illness or condition under the provisions of this chapter, it shall immediately notify the department;

(b) whenever the department learns of a case of a reportable illness or condition under this chapter that it reasonably believes has the potential to be caused by one of the factors listed in Subsection 26-23b-103(1), it shall immediately notify the appropriate public safety authority; and

(c) sharing of information reportable under the provisions of this chapter between persons authorized by this chapter shall be limited to information necessary for the treatment, control, investigation, and prevention of a public health emergency.

(3) Except to the extent inconsistent with this chapter, Sections 26-6-27 and 26-6-28 apply to this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 55, 2011 General Session

26-25-1. Authority to provide data on treatment and condition of persons to designated agencies -- Immunity from liability.

(1) Any person, health facility, or other organization may, without incurring liability, provide the following information to the persons and entities described in Subsection (2):

(a) information as determined by the state registrar of vital records appointed under Title 26, Chapter 2, Utah Vital Statistics Act;

(b) interviews;

(c) reports;

(d) statements;

(e) memoranda;

(f) familial information; and

(g) other data relating to the condition and treatment of any person.

(2) The information described in Subsection (1) may be provided to:
(a) the department and local health departments;
(b) the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health within the Department of Human Services;
(c) scientific and health care research organizations affiliated with institutions of higher education;
(d) the Utah Medical Association or any of its allied medical societies;
(e) peer review committees;
(f) professional review organizations;
(g) professional societies and associations; and
(h) any health facility's in-house staff committee for the uses described in Subsection (3).
(3) The information described in Subsection (1) may be provided for the following purposes:
(a) study and advancing medical research, with the purpose of reducing the incidence of disease, morbidity, or mortality; or
(b) the evaluation and improvement of hospital and health care rendered by hospitals, health facilities, or health care providers.
(4) Any person may, without incurring liability, provide information, interviews, reports, statements, memoranda, or other information relating to the ethical conduct of any health care provider to peer review committees, professional societies and associations, or any in-hospital staff committee to be used for purposes of intraprofessional society or association discipline.
(5) No liability may arise against any person or organization as a result of:
(a) providing information or material authorized in this section;
(b) releasing or publishing findings and conclusions of groups referred to in this section to advance health research and health education; or
(c) releasing or publishing a summary of these studies in accordance with this chapter.
(6) As used in this chapter:
(a) "health care provider" has the meaning set forth in Section 78B-3-403; and
(b) "health care facility" has the meaning set forth in Section 26-21-2.

Amended by Chapter 3, 2008 General Session

26-25-2. Restrictions on use of data.

(1) The information described in Subsection 26-25-1(1) that is provided to the entities described in Subsection 26-25-1(2) shall:
(a) be used and disclosed by the entities described in Subsection 26-25-1(2) in accordance with this chapter; and
(b) is not subject to Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act.
(2) The Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health within the Department of Human Services, scientific and health care research organizations affiliated with institutions of higher education, the Utah Medical Association or any of its allied medical societies, peer review committees, professional review organizations, professional

societies and associations, or any health facility's in-house staff committee may only use or publish the information or material received or gathered under Section 26-25-1 for the purpose of study and advancing medical research or medical education in the interest of reducing the incidence of disease, morbidity, or mortality, except that a summary of studies conducted in accordance with Section 26-25-1 may be released by those groups for general publication.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-25-3. Information considered privileged communications.

All information, interviews, reports, statements, memoranda, or other data furnished by reason of this chapter, and any findings or conclusions resulting from those studies are privileged communications and are not subject to discovery, use, or receipt in evidence in any legal proceeding of any kind or character.

Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-25-4. Information held in confidence -- Protection of identities.

(1) All information described in Subsection 26-25-1(1) that is provided to a person or organization described in Subsection 26-25-1(2) shall be held in strict confidence by that person or organization, and any use, release, or publication resulting therefrom shall be made only for the purposes described in Subsection 26-25-1(3) and Section 26-25-2 and shall preclude identification of any individual or individuals studied.

(2) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), the department's use and disclosure of information is not governed by this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 242, 2003 General Session

26-25-5. Violation of chapter a misdemeanor -- Civil liability.

(1) Any use, release or publication, negligent or otherwise, contrary to the provisions of this chapter is a class B misdemeanor.

(2) Subsection (1) does not relieve the person or organization responsible for such use, release, or publication from civil liability.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-26-1. "Institution" defined.

As used in this chapter, "institution" means any school or college of agriculture, veterinary medicine, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry or other educational, hospital or scientific establishment properly concerned with the investigation of or instruction concerning the structure or functions of living organisms, the cause, prevention, control or cure of diseases or abnormal condition of human beings or animals.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-26-2. Authorization for institutions to obtain impounded animals.

Institutions may apply to the department for authorization to obtain animals from establishments maintained for the impounding, care and disposal of animals seized by lawful authority. If, after investigation, the department finds that the institution meets the requirements of this chapter and its rules and that the public interest will be served thereby, it may authorize the institution to obtain animals under this chapter.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-26-3. Minimum period of impoundment -- Efforts required to contact owner and to make animal available -- Prerogative of person voluntarily providing animal.

(1) Subject to Subsection (2), the governing body of the county or municipality in which an establishment is located may make available to an authorized institution as many impounded animals in that establishment as the institution may request.

(2) A governing body described in Subsection (1) may not make an impounded animal available to an institution, unless:

(a) the animal has been legally impounded for the longer of:

(i) at least five days; or

(ii) the minimum period provided for by local ordinance;

(b) the animal has not been claimed or redeemed by:

(i) the animal's owner; or

(ii) any other person entitled to claim or redeem the animal; and

(c) the establishment has made a reasonable effort to:

(i) find the rightful owner of the animal, including checking if the animal has a tag or microchip; and

(ii) if the owner is not found, make the animal available to others during the impound period. Owners of animals who voluntarily provide their animals to an establishment may, by signature, determine whether or not the animal may be provided to an institution or used for research or educational purposes.

Amended by Chapter 241, 2010 General Session

26-26-4. Institution to pay transportation expense -- Restrictions on use of animals -- Fee.

The authorized institution shall provide, at its own expense, for the transportation of such animals from the establishment to the institution and shall use them only in the conduct of scientific and educational activities and for no other purpose. The institution shall reimburse the establishment for animals received. The fee shall be, at a minimum, $15 for cats and $20 for dogs. That fee shall be increased as determined by the department, based on fluctuations or changes in the Consumer Price Index.

Amended by Chapter 80, 1989 General Session

26-26-5. Records of animals required.

Each establishment referred to in Section 26-26-2 shall keep a public record of all animals received and disposed of.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-26-6. Revocation of authorization.

The department upon 15 days written notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke an institution's authorization if the institution has violated any provision of this chapter, or has failed to comply with the conditions required by the department in respect to the issuance of authorization.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-26-7. Adoption of rules by department -- Inspection and investigation of institutions.

(1) In carrying out the provisions of this chapter, the department may adopt rules for:

(a) controlling the humane use of animals;

(b) diagnosis and treatment of human and animal diseases;

(c) advancement of veterinary, dental, medical, and biological sciences; and

(d) testing, improvement, and standardization of laboratory specimens, biologic projects, pharmaceuticals, and drugs.

(2) The department may inspect or investigate any institution that applies for or is authorized to obtain animals.

Amended by Chapter 80, 1989 General Session

26-28-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act."

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Adult" means an individual who is at least 18 years of age.

(2) "Agent" means an individual:

(a) authorized to make health care decisions on the principal's behalf by a power of attorney for health care; or

(b) expressly authorized to make an anatomical gift on the principal's behalf by any other record signed by the principal.

(3) "Anatomical gift" means a donation of all or part of a human body to take effect after the donor's death for the purpose of transplantation, therapy, research, or education.

(4) "Decedent" means:

(a) a deceased individual whose body or part is or may be the source of an anatomical gift; and

(b) includes:

(i) a stillborn infant; and

(ii) subject to restrictions imposed by law other than this chapter, a fetus.

(5) (a) "Disinterested witness" means:

(i) a witness other than the spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandchild, grandparent, or guardian of the individual who makes, amends, revokes, or refuses to make an anatomical gift; or

(ii) another adult who exhibited special care and concern for the individual.

(b) "Disinterested witness" does not include a person to which an anatomical gift could pass under Section 26-28-111.

(6) "Document of gift" means a donor card or other record used to make an anatomical gift. The term includes a statement or symbol on a driver license, identification card, or donor registry.

(7) "Donor" means an individual whose body or part is the subject of an anatomical gift.

(8) "Donor registry" means a database that contains records of anatomical gifts and amendments to or revocations of anatomical gifts.

(9) "Driver license" means a license or permit issued by the Driver License Division of the Department of Public Safety, to operate a vehicle, whether or not conditions are attached to the license or permit.

(10) "Eye bank" means a person that is licensed, accredited, or regulated under federal or state law to engage in the recovery, screening, testing, processing, storage, or distribution of human eyes or portions of human eyes.

(11) "Guardian":

(a) means a person appointed by a court to make decisions regarding the support, care, education, health, or welfare of an individual; and

(b) does not include a guardian ad litem.

(12) "Hospital" means a facility licensed as a hospital under the law of any state or a facility operated as a hospital by the United States, a state, or a subdivision of a state.

(13) "Identification card" means an identification card issued by the Driver License Division of the Department of Public Safety.

(14) "Know" means to have actual knowledge.

(15) "Minor" means an individual who is under 18 years of age.

(16) "Organ procurement organization" means a person designated by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services as an organ procurement organization.

(17) "Parent" means a parent whose parental rights have not been terminated.

(18) "Part" means an organ, an eye, or tissue of a human being. The term does not include the whole body.

(19) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or any other legal or commercial entity.

(20) "Physician" means an individual authorized to practice medicine or osteopathy under the law of any state.

(21) "Procurement organization" means an eye bank, organ procurement organization, or tissue bank.

(22) "Prospective donor":

(a) means an individual who is dead or near death and has been determined by a procurement organization to have a part that could be medically suitable for transplantation, therapy, research, or education; and

(b) does not include an individual who has made a refusal.

(23) "Reasonably available" means able to be contacted by a procurement organization without undue effort and willing and able to act in a timely manner consistent with existing medical criteria necessary for the making of an anatomical gift.

(24) "Recipient" means an individual into whose body a decedent's part has been or is intended to be transplanted.

(25) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

(26) "Refusal" means a record created under Section 26-28-107 that expressly states an intent to bar other persons from making an anatomical gift of an individual's body or part.

(27) "Sign" means, with the present intent to authenticate or adopt a record:

(a) to execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or

(b) to attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic symbol, sound, or process.

(28) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(29) "Technician":

(a) means an individual determined to be qualified to remove or process parts by an appropriate organization that is licensed, accredited, or regulated under federal or state law; and

(b) includes an enucleator.

(30) "Tissue" means a portion of the human body other than an organ or an eye. The term does not include blood unless the blood is donated for the purpose of research or education.

(31) "Tissue bank" means a person that is licensed, accredited, or regulated under federal or state law to engage in the recovery, screening, testing, processing, storage, or distribution of tissue.

(32) "Transplant hospital" means a hospital that furnishes organ transplants and other medical and surgical specialty services required for the care of transplant patients.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-103. Applicability.

This chapter applies to an anatomical gift or amendment to, revocation of, or refusal to make an anatomical gift, whenever made.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-104. Who may make anatomical gift before donor's death.

Subject to Section 26-28-108, an anatomical gift of a donor's body or part may be made during the life of the donor for the purpose of transplantation, therapy, research, or education in the manner provided in Section 26-28-105 by:

(1) the donor, if the donor is an adult or if the donor is a minor and is:

(a) emancipated; or

(b) authorized under state law to apply for a driver license because the donor is at least 15 years of age;

(2) an agent of the donor, unless the power of attorney for health care or other record prohibits the agent from making an anatomical gift;

(3) a parent of the donor, if the donor is an unemancipated minor; or

(4) the donor's guardian.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-105. Manner of making anatomical gift before donor's death.

(1) A donor may make an anatomical gift:

(a) by authorizing a statement or symbol indicating that the donor has made an anatomical gift to be imprinted on the donor's driver license or identification card;

(b) in a will;

(c) during a terminal illness or injury of the donor, by any form of communication addressed to at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness; or

(d) as provided in Subsection (2).

(2) A donor or other person authorized to make an anatomical gift under Section 26-28-104 may make a gift by a donor card or other record signed by the donor or other person making the gift or by authorizing that a statement or symbol indicating that the donor has made an anatomical gift be included on a donor registry. If the donor or other person is physically unable to sign a record, the record may be signed by another individual at the direction of the donor or other person and shall:

(a) be witnessed by at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness, who have signed at the request of the donor or the other person; and

(b) state that it has been signed and witnessed as provided in Subsection (2)(a).

(3) Revocation, suspension, expiration, or cancellation of a driver license or identification card upon which an anatomical gift is indicated does not invalidate the gift.

(4) An anatomical gift made by will takes effect upon the donor's death whether or not the will is probated. Invalidation of the will after the donor's death does not invalidate the gift.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-28-106. Amending or revoking anatomical gift before donor's death.

(1) Subject to Section 26-28-108, a donor or other person authorized to make an anatomical gift under Section 26-28-104 may amend or revoke an anatomical gift by:

(a) a record signed by:

(i) the donor;

(ii) the other person; or

(iii) subject to Subsection (2), another individual acting at the direction of the

donor or the other person if the donor or other person is physically unable to sign; or

(b) a later-executed document of gift that amends or revokes a previous anatomical gift or portion of an anatomical gift, either expressly or by inconsistency.

(2) A record signed pursuant to Subsection (1)(a)(iii) shall:

(a) be witnessed by at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness, who have signed at the request of the donor or the other person; and

(b) state that it has been signed and witnessed as provided in Subsection (1)(a).

(3) Subject to Section 26-28-108, a donor or other person authorized to make an anatomical gift under Section 26-28-104 may revoke an anatomical gift by the destruction or cancellation of the document of gift, or the portion of the document of gift used to make the gift, with the intent to revoke the gift.

(4) A donor may amend or revoke an anatomical gift that was not made in a will by any form of communication during a terminal illness or injury addressed to at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness.

(5) A donor who makes an anatomical gift in a will may amend or revoke the gift in the manner provided for amendment or revocation of wills or as provided in Subsection (1).

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-28-107. Refusal to make anatomical gift -- Effect of refusal.

(1) An individual may refuse to make an anatomical gift of the individual's body or part by:

(a) a record signed by:

(i) the individual; or

(ii) subject to Subsection (2), another individual acting at the direction of the individual if the individual is physically unable to sign;

(b) the individual's will, whether or not the will is admitted to probate or invalidated after the individual's death; or

(c) any form of communication made by the individual during the individual's terminal illness or injury addressed to at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness.

(2) A record signed pursuant to Subsection (1)(a)(ii) shall:

(a) be witnessed by at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness, who have signed at the request of the individual; and

(b) state that it has been signed and witnessed as provided in Subsection (1)(a).

(3) An individual who has made a refusal may amend or revoke the refusal:

(a) in the manner provided in Subsection (1) for making a refusal;

(b) by subsequently making an anatomical gift pursuant to Section 26-28-105 that is inconsistent with the refusal; or

(c) by destroying or canceling the record evidencing the refusal, or the portion of the record used to make the refusal, with the intent to revoke the refusal.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection 26-28-108(8), in the absence of an express, contrary indication by the individual set forth in the refusal, an individual's unrevoked refusal to make an anatomical gift of the individual's body or part bars all other persons from making an anatomical gift of the individual's body or part.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-28-108. Preclusive effect of anatomical gift, amendment, or revocation.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (7) and subject to Subsection (6), in the absence of an express, contrary indication by the donor, a person other than the donor is barred from making, amending, or revoking an anatomical gift of a donor's body or part if the donor made an anatomical gift of the donor's body or part under Section 26-28-105 or an amendment to an anatomical gift of the donor's body or part under Section 26-28-106.

(2) A donor's revocation of an anatomical gift of the donor's body or part under Section 26-28-106 is not a refusal and does not bar another person specified in Section 26-28-104 or 26-28-109 from making an anatomical gift of the donor's body or part under Section 26-28-105 or 26-28-110.

(3) If a person other than the donor makes an unrevoked anatomical gift of the donor's body or part under Section 26-28-105 or an amendment to an anatomical gift of the donor's body or part under Section 26-28-106, another person may not make, amend, or revoke the gift of the donor's body or part under Section 26-28-110.

(4) A revocation of an anatomical gift of a donor's body or part under Section 26-28-106 by a person other than the donor does not bar another person from making an anatomical gift of the body or part under Section 26-28-105 or 26-28-110.

(5) In the absence of an express, contrary indication by the donor or other person authorized to make an anatomical gift under Section 26-28-104, an anatomical gift of a part is neither a refusal to give another part nor a limitation on the making of an anatomical gift of another part at a later time by the donor or another person.

(6) In the absence of an express, contrary indication by the donor or other person authorized to make an anatomical gift under Section 26-28-104, an anatomical gift of a part for one or more of the purposes set forth in Section 26-28-104 is not a limitation on the making of an anatomical gift of the part for any of the other purposes by the donor or any other person under Section 26-28-105 or 26-28-110.

(7) If a donor who is an unemancipated minor dies, a parent of the donor who is reasonably available may revoke or amend an anatomical gift of the donor's body or part.

(8) If an unemancipated minor who signed a refusal dies, a parent of the minor who is reasonably available may revoke the minor's refusal.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-109. Who may make anatomical gift of decedent's body or part.

(1) Subject to Subsections (2) and (3) and unless barred by Section 26-28-107 or 26-28-108, an anatomical gift of a decedent's body or part for purpose of transplantation, therapy, research, or education may be made by any member of the following classes of persons who is reasonably available, in the order of priority listed:

(a) an agent of the decedent at the time of death who could have made an anatomical gift under Subsection 26-28-104(2) immediately before the decedent's death;

(b) the spouse of the decedent;
(c) adult children of the decedent;
(d) parents of the decedent;
(e) adult siblings of the decedent;
(f) adult grandchildren of the decedent;
(g) grandparents of the decedent;
(h) the persons who were acting as the guardians of the person of the decedent at the time of death; and
(i) any other person having the authority to dispose of the decedent's body.
(2) If there is more than one member of a class listed in Subsection (1)(a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), or (i) entitled to make an anatomical gift, an anatomical gift may be made by a member of the class unless that member or a person to which the gift may pass under Section 26-28-111 knows of an objection by another member of the class. If an objection is known, the gift may be made only by a majority of the members of the class who are reasonably available.
(3) A person may not make an anatomical gift if, at the time of the decedent's death, a person in a prior class under Subsection (1) is reasonably available to make or to object to the making of an anatomical gift.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-110. Manner of making, amending, or revoking anatomical gift of decedent's body or part.
(1) A person authorized to make an anatomical gift under Section 26-28-109 may make an anatomical gift by a document of gift signed by the person making the gift or by that person's oral communication that is electronically recorded or is contemporaneously reduced to a record and signed by the individual receiving the oral communication.
(2) Subject to Subsection (3), an anatomical gift by a person authorized under Section 26-28-109 may be amended or revoked orally or in a record by any member of a prior class who is reasonably available. If more than one member of the prior class is reasonably available, the gift made by a person authorized under Section 26-28-109 may be:
(a) amended only if a majority of the reasonably available members agree to the amending of the gift; or
(b) revoked only if a majority of the reasonably available members agree to the revoking of the gift or if they are equally divided as to whether to revoke the gift.
(3) A revocation under Subsection (2) is effective only if, before an incision has been made to remove a part from the donor's body or before invasive procedures have begun to prepare the recipient, the procurement organization, transplant hospital, or physician or technician knows of the revocation.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-111. Persons that may receive anatomical gift -- Purpose of anatomical gift.

(1) An anatomical gift may be made to the following persons named in the document of gift:

(a) a hospital, accredited medical school, dental school, college, university, organ procurement organization, or other appropriate person, for research or education;

(b) subject to Subsection (2), an individual designated by the person making the anatomical gift if the individual is the recipient of the part; or

(c) an eye bank or tissue bank.

(2) If an anatomical gift to an individual under Subsection (1)(b) cannot be transplanted into the individual, the part passes in accordance with Subsection (7) in the absence of an express, contrary indication by the person making the anatomical gift.

(3) If an anatomical gift of one or more specific parts or of all parts is made in a document of gift that does not name a person described in Subsection (1) but identifies the purpose for which an anatomical gift may be used, the following rules apply:

(a) If the part is an eye and the gift is for the purpose of transplantation or therapy, the gift passes to the appropriate eye bank.

(b) If the part is tissue and the gift is for the purpose of transplantation or therapy, the gift passes to the appropriate tissue bank.

(c) If the part is an organ and the gift is for the purpose of transplantation or therapy, the gift passes to the appropriate organ procurement organization as custodian of the organ.

(d) If the part is an organ, an eye, or tissue and the gift is for the purpose of research or education, the gift passes to the appropriate procurement organization.

(4) For the purpose of Subsection (3), if there is more than one purpose of an anatomical gift set forth in the document of gift but the purposes are not set forth in any priority, the gift shall be used for transplantation or therapy, if suitable. If the gift cannot be used for transplantation or therapy, the gift may be used for research or education.

(5) If an anatomical gift of one or more specific parts is made in a document of gift that does not name a person described in Subsection (1) and does not identify the purpose of the gift, the gift may be used only for transplantation or therapy, and the gift passes in accordance with Subsection (7).

(6) If a document of gift specifies only a general intent to make an anatomical gift by words such as "donor," "organ donor," or "body donor," or by a symbol or statement of similar import, the gift may be used only for transplantation or therapy, and the gift passes in accordance with Subsection (7).

(7) For purposes of Subsections (2), (5), and (7) the following rules apply:

(a) If the part is an eye, the gift passes to the appropriate eye bank.

(b) If the part is tissue, the gift passes to the appropriate tissue bank.

(c) If the part is an organ, the gift passes to the appropriate organ procurement organization as custodian of the organ.

(8) An anatomical gift of an organ for transplantation or therapy, other than an anatomical gift under Subsection (1)(b), passes to the organ procurement organization as custodian of the organ.

(9) If an anatomical gift does not pass pursuant to Subsections (2) through (8) or the decedent's body or part is not used for transplantation, therapy, research, or education, custody of the body or part passes to the person under obligation to dispose

of the body or part.

(10) A person may not accept an anatomical gift if the person knows that the gift was not effectively made under Section 26-28-105 or 26-28-110 or if the person knows that the decedent made a refusal under Section 26-28-107 that was not revoked. For purposes of this Subsection (10), if a person knows that an anatomical gift was made on a document of gift, the person is considered to know of any amendment or revocation of the gift or any refusal to make an anatomical gift on the same document of gift.

(11) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (1)(b), nothing in this chapter affects the allocation of organs for transplantation or therapy.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-28-112. Search and notification.

(1) The following persons shall make a reasonable search of an individual who the person reasonably believes is dead or near death for a document of gift or other information identifying the individual as a donor or as an individual who made a refusal:

(a) a law enforcement officer, firefighter, paramedic, or other emergency rescuer finding the individual;

(b) if no other source of the information is immediately available, a hospital, as soon as practical after the individual's arrival at the hospital; and

(c) a law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical services provider, or other emergency rescuer who finds an individual who is deceased at the scene of a motor vehicle accident, when the deceased individual is transported from the scene of the accident to a funeral establishment licensed under Title 58, Chapter 9, Funeral Services Licensing Act:

(i) the law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical services provider, or other emergency rescuer shall as soon as reasonably possible, notify the appropriate organ procurement organization, tissue bank, or eye bank of:

(A) the identity of the deceased individual, if known;

(B) information, if known, pertaining to the deceased individual's legal next-of-kin in accordance with Section 26-28-109; and

(C) the name and location of the funeral establishment which received custody of and transported the deceased individual; and

(ii) the funeral establishment receiving custody of the deceased individual under this Subsection (1)(c) may not embalm the body of the deceased individual until:

(A) the funeral establishment receives notice from the organ procurement organization, tissue bank, or eye bank that the readily available persons listed as having priority in Section 26-28-109 have been informed by the organ procurement organization of the option to make or refuse to make an anatomical gift in accordance with Section 26-28-4, with reasonable discretion and sensitivity appropriate to the circumstances of the family;

(B) in accordance with federal law, prior approval for embalming has been obtained from a family member or other authorized person; and

(C) the period of time in which embalming is prohibited under Subsection (1)(c)(ii) may not exceed 24 hours after death.

(2) If a document of gift or a refusal to make an anatomical gift is located by the search required by Subsection (1)(a) and the individual or deceased individual to whom it relates is taken to a hospital, the person responsible for conducting the search shall send the document of gift or refusal to the hospital.

(3) A person is not subject to criminal or civil liability for failing to discharge the duties imposed by this section but may be subject to administrative sanctions.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-113. Delivery of document of gift not required -- Right to examine.

(1) A document of gift need not be delivered during the donor's lifetime to be effective.

(2) Upon or after an individual's death, a person in possession of a document of gift or a refusal to make an anatomical gift with respect to the individual shall allow examination and copying of the document of gift or refusal by a person authorized to make or object to the making of an anatomical gift with respect to the individual or by a person to which the gift could pass under Section 26-28-111.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-114. Rights and duties of procurement organization and others.

(1) When a hospital refers an individual at or near death to a procurement organization, the organization shall make a reasonable search of the records of the Department of Public Safety and any donor registry that it knows exists for the geographical area in which the individual resides to ascertain whether the individual has made an anatomical gift.

(2) A procurement organization shall be allowed reasonable access to information in the records of the Department of Public Safety to ascertain whether an individual at or near death is a donor.

(3) When a hospital refers an individual at or near death to a procurement organization, the organization may conduct any reasonable examination necessary to ensure the medical suitability of a part that is or could be the subject of an anatomical gift for transplantation, therapy, research, or education from a donor or a prospective donor. During the examination period, measures necessary to ensure the medical suitability of the part may not be withdrawn unless the hospital or procurement organization knows that the individual expressed a contrary intent.

(4) Unless prohibited by law other than this chapter, at any time after a donor's death, the person to which a part passes under Section 26-28-111 may conduct any reasonable examination necessary to ensure the medical suitability of the body or part for its intended purpose.

(5) Unless prohibited by law other than this chapter, an examination under Subsection (3) or (4) may include an examination of all medical and dental records of the donor or prospective donor.

(6) Upon the death of a minor who was a donor or had signed a refusal, unless a procurement organization knows the minor is emancipated, the procurement organization shall conduct a reasonable search for the parents of the minor and provide

the parents with an opportunity to revoke or amend the anatomical gift or revoke the refusal.

(7) Upon referral by a hospital under Subsection (1), a procurement organization shall make a reasonable search for any person listed in Section 26-28-109 having priority to make an anatomical gift on behalf of a prospective donor. If a procurement organization receives information that an anatomical gift to any other person was made, amended, or revoked, it shall promptly advise the other person of all relevant information.

(8) Subject to Subsection 26-28-111(9) and Section 26-28-123, the rights of the person to which a part passes under Section 26-28-111 are superior to the rights of all others with respect to the part. The person may accept or reject an anatomical gift in whole or in part. Subject to the terms of the document of gift and this chapter, a person that accepts an anatomical gift of an entire body may allow embalming, burial or cremation, and use of remains in a funeral service. If the gift is of a part, the person to which the part passes under Section 26-28-111, upon the death of the donor and before embalming, burial, or cremation, shall cause the part to be removed without unnecessary mutilation.

(9) Neither the physician who attends the decedent at death nor the physician who determines the time of the decedent's death may participate in the procedures for removing or transplanting a part from the decedent.

(10) A physician or technician may remove a donated part from the body of a donor that the physician or technician is qualified to remove.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-28-115. Coordination of procurement and use.

Each hospital in this state shall enter into agreements or affiliations with procurement organizations for coordination of procurement and use of anatomical gifts.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-116. Sale or purchase of parts prohibited.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (2), a person that for valuable consideration, knowingly purchases or sells a part for transplantation or therapy if removal of a part from an individual is intended to occur after the individual's death commits a third degree felony.

(2) A person may charge a reasonable amount for the removal, processing, preservation, quality control, storage, transportation, implantation, or disposal of a part.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-117. Other prohibited acts.

A person that, in order to obtain a financial gain, intentionally falsifies, forges, conceals, defaces, or obliterates a document of gift, an amendment, or revocation of a document of gift, or a refusal commits a third degree felony.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-118. Immunity.

(1) A person that acts in accordance with this chapter or with the applicable anatomical gift law of another state, or attempts in good faith to do so, is not liable for the act in a civil action, criminal prosecution, or administrative proceeding.

(2) Neither the person making an anatomical gift nor the donor's estate is liable for any injury or damage that results from the making or use of the gift.

(3) In determining whether an anatomical gift has been made, amended, or revoked under this chapter, a person may rely upon representations of an individual listed in Subsection 26-28-109(1)(b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), or (i) relating to the individual's relationship to the donor or prospective donor unless the person knows that the representation is untrue.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-119. Law governing validity -- Choice of law as to execution of document of gift -- Presumption of validity.

(1) A document of gift is valid if executed in accordance with:

(a) this chapter;

(b) the laws of the state or country where it was executed; or

(c) the laws of the state or country where the person making the anatomical gift was domiciled, has a place of residence, or was a national at the time the document of gift was executed.

(2) If a document of gift is valid under this section, the law of this state governs the interpretation of the document of gift.

(3) A person may presume that a document of gift or amendment of an anatomical gift is valid unless that person knows that it was not validly executed or was revoked.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-120. Donor registry.

(1) The Department of Public Safety may establish or contract for the establishment of a donor registry.

(2) The Driver License Division of the Department of Public Safety shall cooperate with a person that administers any donor registry that this state establishes, contracts for, or recognizes for the purpose of transferring to the donor registry all relevant information regarding a donor's making, amendment to, or revocation of an anatomical gift.

(3) A donor registry shall:

(a) allow a donor or other person authorized under Section 26-28-104 to include on the donor registry a statement or symbol that the donor has made, amended, or revoked an anatomical gift;

(b) be accessible to a procurement organization to allow it to obtain relevant information on the donor registry to determine, at or near death of the donor or a

prospective donor, whether the donor or prospective donor has made, amended, or revoked an anatomical gift; and

(c) be accessible for purposes of Subsections (3)(a) and (b) seven days a week on a 24-hour basis.

(4) Personally identifiable information on a donor registry about a donor or prospective donor may not be used or disclosed without the express consent of the donor, prospective donor, or person that made the anatomical gift for any purpose other than to determine, at or near death of the donor or prospective donor, whether the donor or prospective donor has made, amended, or revoked an anatomical gift.

(5) This section does not prohibit any person from creating or maintaining a donor registry that is not established by or under contract with the state. Any such registry shall comply with Subsections (3) and (4).

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-28-121. Effect of anatomical gift on advance health care directive.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Advance health care directive" means a power of attorney for health care or a record signed or authorized by a prospective donor containing the prospective donor's direction concerning a health care decision for the prospective donor.

(b) "Declaration" means a record signed by a prospective donor specifying the circumstances under which a life support system may be withheld or withdrawn from the prospective donor.

(c) "Health care decision" means any decision regarding the health care of the prospective donor.

(2) If a prospective donor has a declaration or advance health care directive and the terms of the declaration or directive and the express or implied terms of a potential anatomical gift are in conflict with regard to the administration of measures necessary to ensure the medical suitability of a part for transplantation or therapy, the prospective donor's attending physician and prospective donor shall confer to resolve the conflict. If the prospective donor is incapable of resolving the conflict, an agent acting under the prospective donor's declaration or directive, or if no declaration or directive exists or the agent is not reasonably available, another person authorized by a law other than this chapter to make a health care decision on behalf of the prospective donor, shall act for the donor to resolve the conflict. The conflict shall be resolved as expeditiously as possible. Information relevant to the resolution of the conflict may be obtained from the appropriate procurement organization and any other person authorized to make an anatomical gift for the prospective donor under Section 26-28-109. Before resolution of the conflict, measures necessary to ensure the medical suitability of the part may not be withheld or withdrawn from the prospective donor if withholding or withdrawing the measures is not contraindicated by appropriate end of life care.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-28-122. Cooperation between medical examiner and procurement organization.

(1) A medical examiner shall cooperate with procurement organizations to maximize the opportunity to recover anatomical gifts for the purpose of transplantation, therapy, research, or education.

(2) If a medical examiner receives notice from a procurement organization that an anatomical gift might be available or was made with respect to a decedent whose body is under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner and a postmortem examination is going to be performed, unless the medical examiner denies recovery in accordance with Section 26-28-123, the medical examiner or designee shall conduct a postmortem examination of the body or the part in a manner and within a period compatible with its preservation for the purposes of the gift.

(3) A part may not be removed from the body of a decedent under the jurisdiction of a medical examiner for transplantation, therapy, research, or education unless the part is the subject of an anatomical gift. The body of a decedent under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner may not be delivered to a person for research or education unless the body is the subject of an anatomical gift. This Subsection (3) does not preclude a medical examiner from performing the medicolegal investigation upon the body or parts of a decedent under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner.

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-123. Facilitation of anatomical gift from decedent whose body is under jurisdiction of medical examiner.

(1) Upon request of a procurement organization, a medical examiner shall release to the procurement organization the name, contact information, and available medical and social history of a decedent whose body is under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner. If the decedent's body or part is medically suitable for transplantation, therapy, research, or education, the medical examiner shall release postmortem examination results to the procurement organization. The procurement organization may make a subsequent disclosure of the postmortem examination results or other information received from the medical examiner only if relevant to transplantation or therapy.

(2) The medical examiner may conduct a medicolegal examination by reviewing all medical records, laboratory test results, x-rays, other diagnostic results, and other information that any person possesses about a donor or prospective donor whose body is under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner which the medical examiner determines may be relevant to the investigation.

(3) A person that has any information requested by a medical examiner pursuant to Subsection (2) shall provide that information as expeditiously as possible to allow the medical examiner to conduct the medicolegal investigation within a period compatible with the preservation of parts for the purpose of transplantation, therapy, research, or education.

(4) If an anatomical gift has been or might be made of a part of a decedent whose body is under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner and a postmortem examination is not required, or the medical examiner determines that a postmortem examination is required but that the recovery of the part that is the subject of an anatomical gift will not interfere with the examination, the medical examiner and

procurement organization shall cooperate in the timely removal of the part from the decedent for the purpose of transplantation, therapy, research, or education.

(5) If an anatomical gift of a part from the decedent under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner has been or might be made, but the medical examiner initially believes that the recovery of the part could interfere with the postmortem investigation into the decedent's cause or manner of death, the medical examiner shall consult with the procurement organization or physician or technician designated by the procurement organization about the proposed recovery. After consultation, the medical examiner may allow the recovery.

(6) Following the consultation under Subsection (5), in the absence of mutually agreed upon protocols to resolve conflict between the medical examiner and the procurement organization, if the medical examiner intends to deny recovery, the medical examiner or designee, at the request of the procurement organization, may attend the removal procedure for the part before making a final determination not to allow the procurement organization to recover the part. During the removal procedure, the medical examiner or designee may allow recovery by the procurement organization to proceed, or, if the medical examiner or designee reasonably believes that the part may be involved in determining the decedent's cause or manner of death, deny recovery by the procurement organization.

(7) If the medical examiner or designee denies recovery under Subsection (6), the medical examiner or designee shall:

(a) explain in a record the specific reasons for not allowing recovery of the part;

(b) include the specific reasons in the records of the medical examiner; and

(c) provide a record with the specific reasons to the procurement organization.

(8) If the medical examiner or designee allows recovery of a part under Subsection (4), (5), or (6), the procurement organization, upon request, shall cause the physician or technician who removes the part to provide the medical examiner with a record describing the condition of the part, a biopsy, a photograph, and any other information and observations that would assist in the postmortem examination.

(9) If a medical examiner or designee is required to be present at a removal procedure under Subsection (6), upon request the procurement organization requesting the recovery of the part shall reimburse the medical examiner or designee for the additional costs incurred in complying with Subsection (6).

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-28-124. Uniformity of application and construction.

In applying and construing this uniform act, consideration shall be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-28-125. Relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act.

This act modifies, limits, and supersedes the Electronic Signatures in Global and

National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001 et seq., but does not modify, limit or supersede Section 101(a) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001, or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7003(b).

Enacted by Chapter 60, 2007 General Session

26-29-1. Buildings and facilities to which chapter applies -- Standards available to interested parties -- Building board staff to advise, review, and approve plans when possible.

(1) (a) The standards in this chapter apply to all buildings and facilities used by the public that are constructed or remodeled in whole or in part by the use of state funds, or the funds of any political subdivision of the state.

(b) All of those buildings and facilities constructed in Utah after May 12, 1981, shall conform to the standard prescribed in this chapter except buildings, facilities, or portions of them, not intended for public use, including:

(i) caretaker dwellings;

(ii) service buildings; and

(iii) heating plants.

(2) This chapter applies to temporary or emergency construction as well as permanent buildings.

(3) (a) The standards established in this chapter apply to the remodeling or alteration of any existing building or facility within the jurisdictions set forth in this chapter where the remodeling or alteration will affect an area of the building or facility in which there are architectural barriers for persons with a physical disability.

(b) If the remodeling involves less than 50% of the space of the building or facility, only the areas being remodeled need comply with the standards.

(c) If remodeling involves 50% or more of the space of the building or facility, the entire building or facility shall be brought into compliance with the standards.

(4) (a) All individuals and organizations are encouraged to apply the standards prescribed in this chapter to all buildings used by the public, but that are financed from other than public funds.

(b) The State Building Board shall:

(i) make the standards established by this chapter available to interested individuals and organizations; and

(ii) upon request and to the extent possible, make available the services of the building board staff to advise, review, and approve plans and specifications in order to comply with the standards of this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 73, 2001 General Session

26-29-2. Purpose of chapter.

(1) This chapter is concerned with nonambulatory disabilities, semiambulatory disabilities, sight disabilities, hearing disabilities, disabilities of incoordination, and aging.

(2) It is intended to make all buildings and facilities covered by this chapter

accessible to, and functional for, persons with a physical disability.

Amended by Chapter 73, 2001 General Session

26-29-3. Basis for standards.

The standards of this chapter are the current edition of planning and design criteria to prevent architectural barriers for the aged and persons with a physical disability, as promulgated by the State Building Board.

Amended by Chapter 73, 2001 General Session

26-29-4. Enforcement of chapter.

The responsibility for adoption of the planning and design criteria referred to in Section 26-29-3, and enforcement of this chapter shall be as follows:

(1) where state school funds are utilized, the State Board of Education.

(2) where state funds are utilized, the State Building Board.

(3) where funds of political subdivisions are utilized, the governing board of the county or municipality in which the building or facility is located.

Enacted by Chapter 126, 1981 General Session

26-31-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Human Blood Act."

Enacted by Chapter 90, 2011 General Session

26-31-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Blood" means human blood.

(2) "Blood product" includes:

(a) whole blood;

(b) blood plasma;

(c) a blood derivative;

(d) blood platelets; and

(e) blood clotting agents.

Enacted by Chapter 90, 2011 General Session

26-31-201. Procurement and use of a blood product is a service and not a sale.

The following are considered to be the rendition of a service by each participant and are not considered to be a sale:

(1) the procurement, processing, distribution, or use of a blood product for the purpose of injecting or transfusing the blood product into the human body; and

(2) the process of injecting or transfusing a blood product.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 90, 2011 General Session
Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-31-202. Blood donation by a minor.

A minor who is at least 16 years old may donate blood to a voluntary, noncompensatory blood donation program if a parent or legal guardian of the minor consents to the donation.

Enacted by Chapter 90, 2011 General Session

26-33a-101. Short title.

This chapter is known as the "Utah Health Data Authority Act."

Enacted by Chapter 305, 1990 General Session

26-33a-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Committee" means the Health Data Committee created by Section 26-1-7.

(2) "Control number" means a number assigned by the committee to an individual's health data as an identifier so that the health data can be disclosed or used in research and statistical analysis without readily identifying the individual.

(3) "Data supplier" means a health care facility, health care provider, self-funded employer, third-party payor, health maintenance organization, or government department which could reasonably be expected to provide health data under this chapter.

(4) "Disclosure" or "disclose" means the communication of health care data to any individual or organization outside the committee, its staff, and contracting agencies.

(5) "Executive director" means the director of the department.

(6) "Health care facility" means a facility that is licensed by the department under Title 26, Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act. The committee may by rule add, delete, or modify the list of facilities that come within this definition for purposes of this chapter.

(7) "Health care provider" means any person, partnership, association, corporation, or other facility or institution that renders or causes to be rendered health care or professional services as a physician, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, nurse-midwife, dentist, dental hygienist, optometrist, clinical laboratory technologist, pharmacist, physical therapist, podiatric physician, psychologist, chiropractic physician, naturopathic physician, osteopathic physician, osteopathic physician and surgeon, audiologist, speech pathologist, certified social worker, social service worker, social service aide, marriage and family counselor, or practitioner of obstetrics, and others rendering similar care and services relating to or arising out of the health needs of persons or groups of persons, and officers, employees, or agents of any of the above acting in the course and scope of their employment.

(8) "Health data" means information relating to the health status of individuals, health services delivered, the availability of health manpower and facilities, and the use and costs of resources and services to the consumer, except vital records as defined in

Section 26-2-2 shall be excluded.

(9) "Health maintenance organization" has the meaning set forth in Section 31A-8-101.

(10) "Identifiable health data" means any item, collection, or grouping of health data that makes the individual supplying or described in the health data identifiable.

(11) "Individual" means a natural person.

(12) "Organization" means any corporation, association, partnership, agency, department, unit, or other legally constituted institution or entity, or part thereof.

(13) "Research and statistical analysis" means activities using health data analysis including:

(a) describing the group characteristics of individuals or organizations;

(b) analyzing the noncompliance among the various characteristics of individuals or organizations;

(c) conducting statistical procedures or studies to improve the quality of health data;

(d) designing sample surveys and selecting samples of individuals or organizations; and

(e) preparing and publishing reports describing these matters.

(14) "Self-funded employer" means an employer who provides for the payment of health care services for employees directly from the employer's funds, thereby assuming the financial risks rather than passing them on to an outside insurer through premium payments.

(15) "Plan" means the plan developed and adopted by the Health Data Committee under Section 26-33a-104.

(16) "Third party payor" means:

(a) an insurer offering a health benefit plan, as defined by Section 31A-1-301, to at least 2,500 enrollees in the state;

(b) a nonprofit health service insurance corporation licensed under Title 31A, Chapter 7, Nonprofit Health Service Insurance Corporations;

(c) a program funded or administered by Utah for the provision of health care services, including the Medicaid and medical assistance programs described in Chapter 18, Medical Assistance Act; and

(d) a corporation, organization, association, entity, or person:

(i) which administers or offers a health benefit plan to at least 2,500 enrollees in the state; and

(ii) which is required by administrative rule adopted by the department in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to supply health data to the committee.

Amended by Chapter 400, 2011 General Session

26-33a-103. Committee membership -- Terms -- Chair -- Compensation.

(1) The Health Data Committee created by Section 26-1-7 shall be composed of 14 members appointed by the governor with the consent of the Senate.

(2) No more than seven members of the committee may be members of the same political party.

(3) The appointed members of the committee shall be knowledgeable regarding the health care system and the characteristics and use of health data and shall be selected so that the committee at all times includes individuals who provide care.

(4) The membership of the committee shall be:

(a) one person employed by or otherwise associated with a hospital as defined by Section 26-21-2, who is knowledgeable about the collection, analysis, and use of health care data;

(b) two physicians, as defined in Section 58-67-102:

(i) who are licensed to practice in this state;

(ii) who actively practice medicine in this state;

(iii) who are trained in or have experience with the collection, analysis, and use of health care data; and

(iv) one of whom is selected by the Utah Medical Association;

(c) three persons:

(i) who are:

(A) employed by or otherwise associated with a business that supplies health care insurance to its employees; and

(B) knowledgeable about the collection and use of health care data; and

(ii) at least one of whom represents an employer employing 50 or fewer employees;

(d) three persons representing health insurers:

(i) at least one of whom is employed by or associated with a third-party payor that is not licensed under Title 31A, Chapter 8, Health Maintenance Organizations and Limited Health Plans;

(ii) at least one of whom is employed by or associated with a third party payer that is licensed under Title 31A, Chapter 8, Health Maintenance Organizations and Limited Health Plans; and

(iii) who are trained in, or experienced with the collection, analysis, and use of health care data;

(e) two consumer representatives:

(i) from organized consumer or employee associations; and

(ii) knowledgeable about the collection and use of health care data;

(f) one person:

(i) representative of a neutral, non-biased entity that can demonstrate that it has the broad support of health care payers and health care providers; and

(ii) who is knowledgeable about the collection, analysis, and use of health care data; and

(g) two persons representing public health who are trained in, or experienced with the collection, use, and analysis of health care data.

(5) (a) Except as required by Subsection (5)(b), as terms of current committee members expire, the governor shall appoint each new member or reappointed member to a four-year term.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (5)(a), the governor shall:

(i) at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of committee members are staggered so that approximately half of the committee is appointed every two years; and

(ii) prior to July 1, 2011, re-appoint the members described in Subsections (4)(b), (d), and (f) as necessary to comply with changes in eligibility for membership that were enacted during the 2011 General Session.

(c) Members may serve after their terms expire until replaced.

(6) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term.

(7) Committee members shall annually elect a chair of the committee from among their membership. The chair shall report to the executive director.

(8) The committee shall meet at least once during each calendar quarter. Meeting dates shall be set by the chair upon 10 working days notice to the other members, or upon written request by at least four committee members with at least 10 working days notice to other committee members.

(9) Seven committee members constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Action may not be taken except upon the affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of the committee.

(10) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

(a) Section 63A-3-106;

(b) Section 63A-3-107; and

(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

(11) All meetings of the committee shall be open to the public, except that the committee may hold a closed meeting if the requirements of Sections 52-4-204, 52-4-205, and 52-4-206 are met.

Amended by Chapter 400, 2011 General Session

26-33a-104. Purpose, powers, and duties of the committee.

(1) The purpose of the committee is to direct a statewide effort to collect, analyze, and distribute health care data to facilitate the promotion and accessibility of quality and cost-effective health care and also to facilitate interaction among those with concern for health care issues.

(2) The committee shall:

(a) develop and adopt by rule, following public hearing and comment, a health data plan that shall among its elements:

(i) identify the key health care issues, questions, and problems amenable to resolution or improvement through better data, more extensive or careful analysis, or improved dissemination of health data;

(ii) document existing health data activities in the state to collect, organize, or make available types of data pertinent to the needs identified in Subsection (2)(a)(i);

(iii) describe and prioritize the actions suitable for the committee to take in response to the needs identified in Subsection (2)(a)(i) in order to obtain or to facilitate the obtaining of needed data, and to encourage improvements in existing data collection, interpretation, and reporting activities, and indicate how those actions relate to the activities identified under Subsection (2)(a)(ii);

(iv) detail the types of data needed for the committee's work, the intended data

suppliers, and the form in which such data are to be supplied, noting the consideration given to the potential alternative sources and forms of such data and to the estimated cost to the individual suppliers as well as to the department of acquiring these data in the proposed manner; the plan shall reasonably demonstrate that the committee has attempted to maximize cost-effectiveness in the data acquisition approaches selected;

(v) describe the types and methods of validation to be performed to assure data validity and reliability;

(vi) explain the intended uses of and expected benefits to be derived from the data specified in Subsection (2)(a)(iv), including the contemplated tabulation formats and analysis methods; the benefits described shall demonstrably relate to one or more of the following:

(A) promoting quality health care;

(B) managing health care costs; or

(C) improving access to health care services;

(vii) describe the expected processes for interpretation and analysis of the data flowing to the committee; noting specifically the types of expertise and participation to be sought in those processes; and

(viii) describe the types of reports to be made available by the committee and the intended audiences and uses;

(b) have the authority to collect, validate, analyze, and present health data in accordance with the plan while protecting individual privacy through the use of a control number as the health data identifier;

(c) evaluate existing identification coding methods and, if necessary, require by rule that health data suppliers use a uniform system for identification of patients, health care facilities, and health care providers on health data they submit under this chapter; and

(d) advise, consult, contract, and cooperate with any corporation, association, or other entity for the collection, analysis, processing, or reporting of health data identified by control number only in accordance with the plan.

(3) The committee may adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this chapter in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(4) Except for data collection, analysis, and validation functions described in this section, nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize or permit the committee to perform regulatory functions which are delegated by law to other agencies of the state or federal governments or to perform quality assurance or medical record audit functions that health care facilities, health care providers, or third party payors are required to conduct to comply with federal or state law. The committee may not recommend or determine whether a health care provider, health care facility, third party payor, or self-funded employer is in compliance with federal or state laws including federal or state licensure, insurance, reimbursement, tax, malpractice, or quality assurance statutes or common law.

(5) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require a data supplier to supply health data identifying a patient by name or describing detail on a patient beyond that needed to achieve the approved purposes included in the plan.

(6) No request for health data shall be made of health care providers and other data suppliers until a plan for the use of such health data has been adopted.

(7) If a proposed request for health data imposes unreasonable costs on a data supplier, due consideration shall be given by the committee to altering the request. If the request is not altered, the committee shall pay the costs incurred by the data supplier associated with satisfying the request that are demonstrated by the data supplier to be unreasonable.

(8) After a plan is adopted as provided in Section 26-33a-106.1, the committee may require any data supplier to submit fee schedules, maximum allowable costs, area prevailing costs, terms of contracts, discounts, fixed reimbursement arrangements, capitations, or other specific arrangements for reimbursement to a health care provider.

(9) The committee may not publish any health data collected under Subsection (8) that would disclose specific terms of contracts, discounts, or fixed reimbursement arrangements, or other specific reimbursement arrangements between an individual provider and a specific payer.

(10) Nothing in Subsection (8) shall prevent the committee from requiring the submission of health data on the reimbursements actually made to health care providers from any source of payment, including consumers.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-33a-105. Executive secretary -- Appointment -- Powers.

(1) An executive secretary shall be appointed by the executive director, with the approval of the committee, and shall serve under the administrative direction of the executive director.

(2) The executive secretary shall:

(a) employ full-time employees necessary to carry out this chapter;

(b) supervise the development of a draft health data plan for the committee's review, modification, and approval; and

(c) supervise and conduct the staff functions of the committee in order to assist the committee in meeting its responsibilities under this chapter.

Enacted by Chapter 305, 1990 General Session

26-33a-106. Limitations on use of health data.

The committee may not use the health data provided to it by third-party payors, health care providers, or health care facilities to make recommendations with regard to a single health care provider or health care facility, or a group of health care providers or health care facilities.

Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-33a-106.1. Health care cost and reimbursement data.

(1) (a) The committee shall, as funding is available, establish an advisory panel to advise the committee on the development of a plan for the collection and use of health care data pursuant to Subsection 26-33a-104(6) and this section.

(b) The advisory panel shall include:

(i) the chairman of the Utah Hospital Association;

(ii) a representative of a rural hospital as designated by the Utah Hospital Association;
(iii) a representative of the Utah Medical Association;
(iv) a physician from a small group practice as designated by the Utah Medical Association;
(v) two representatives who are health insurers, appointed by the committee;
(vi) a representative from the Department of Health as designated by the executive director of the department;
(vii) a representative from the committee;
(viii) a consumer advocate appointed by the committee;
(ix) a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House; and
(x) a member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate.
(c) The advisory panel shall elect a chair from among its members, and shall be staffed by the committee.
(2) (a) The committee shall, as funding is available:
(i) establish a plan for collecting data from data suppliers, as defined in Section 26-33a-102, to determine measurements of cost and reimbursements for risk adjusted episodes of health care;
(ii) share data regarding insurance claims and an individual's and small employer group's health risk factor with insurers participating in the defined contribution market created in Title 31A, Chapter 30, Part 2, Defined Contribution Arrangements, only to the extent necessary for:
(A) establishing rates and prospective risk adjusting in the defined contribution arrangement market; and
(B) risk adjusting in the defined contribution arrangement market; and
(iii) assist the Legislature and the public with awareness of, and the promotion of, transparency in the health care market by reporting on:
(A) geographic variances in medical care and costs as demonstrated by data available to the committee; and
(B) rate and price increases by health care providers:
(I) that exceed the Consumer Price Index - Medical as provided by the United States Bureau of Labor statistics;
(II) as calculated yearly from June to June; and
(III) as demonstrated by data available to the committee.
(b) The plan adopted under this Subsection (2) shall include:
(i) the type of data that will be collected;
(ii) how the data will be evaluated;
(iii) how the data will be used;
(iv) the extent to which, and how the data will be protected; and
(v) who will have access to the data.

Amended by Chapter 279, 2012 General Session

26-33a-106.5. Comparative analyses.
(1) The committee may publish compilations or reports that compare and

identify health care providers or data suppliers from the data it collects under this chapter or from any other source.

(2) (a) The committee shall publish compilations or reports from the data it collects under this chapter or from any other source which:

(i) contain the information described in Subsection (2)(b); and

(ii) compare and identify by name at least a majority of the health care facilities and institutions in the state.

(b) The report required by this Subsection (2) shall:

(i) be published at least annually; and

(ii) contain comparisons based on at least the following factors:

(A) nationally or other generally recognized quality standards;

(B) charges; and

(C) nationally recognized patient safety standards.

(3) The committee may contract with a private, independent analyst to evaluate the standard comparative reports of the committee that identify, compare, or rank the performance of data suppliers by name. The evaluation shall include a validation of statistical methodologies, limitations, appropriateness of use, and comparisons using standard health services research practice. The analyst shall be experienced in analyzing large databases from multiple data suppliers and in evaluating health care issues of cost, quality, and access. The results of the analyst's evaluation shall be released to the public before the standard comparative analysis upon which it is based may be published by the committee.

(4) The committee shall adopt by rule a timetable for the collection and analysis of data from multiple types of data suppliers.

(5) The comparative analysis required under Subsection (2) shall be available:

(a) free of charge and easily accessible to the public; and

(b) on the Health Insurance Exchange either directly or through a link.

(6) (a) The department shall include in the report required by Subsection (2)(b), or include in a separate report, comparative information on commonly recognized or generally agreed upon measures of quality identified in accordance with Subsection (7), for:

(i) routine and preventive care; and

(ii) the treatment of diabetes, heart disease, and other illnesses or conditions.

(b) The comparative information required by Subsection (6)(a) shall be based on data collected under Subsection (2) and clinical data that may be available to the committee, and shall beginning on or after July 1, 2012, compare:

(i) results for health care facilities or institutions;

(ii) a clinic's aggregate results for a physician who practices at a clinic with five or more physicians; and

(iii) a geographic region's aggregate results for a physician who practices at a clinic with less than five physicians, unless the physician requests physician-level data to be published on a clinic level.

(c) The department:

(i) may publish information required by this Subsection (6) directly or through one or more nonprofit, community-based health data organizations;

(ii) may use a private, independent analyst under Subsection (3) in preparing the

report required by this section; and

(iii) shall identify and report to the Legislature's Health and Human Services Interim Committee by July 1, 2012, and every July 1, thereafter until July 1, 2015, at least five new measures of quality to be added to the report each year.

(d) A report published by the department under this Subsection (6):

(i) is subject to the requirements of Section 26-33a-107; and

(ii) shall, prior to being published by the department, be submitted to a neutral, non-biased entity with a broad base of support from health care payers and health care providers in accordance with Subsection (7) for the purpose of validating the report.

(7) (a) The Health Data Committee shall, through the department, for purposes of Subsection (6)(a), use the quality measures that are developed and agreed upon by a neutral, non-biased entity with a broad base of support from health care payers and health care providers.

(b) If the entity described in Subsection (7)(a) does not submit the quality measures, the department may select the appropriate number of quality measures for purposes of the report required by Subsection (6).

(c) (i) For purposes of the reports published on or after July 1, 2012, the department may not compare individual facilities or clinics as described in Subsections (6)(b)(i) through (iii) if the department determines that the data available to the department can not be appropriately validated, does not represent nationally recognized measures, does not reflect the mix of cases seen at a clinic or facility, or is not sufficient for the purposes of comparing providers.

(ii) The department shall report to the Legislature's Executive Appropriations Committee prior to making a determination not to publish a report under Subsection (7)(c)(i).

Amended by Chapter 279, 2012 General Session

26-33a-107. Limitations on release of reports.

The committee may not release a compilation or report that compares and identifies health care providers or data suppliers unless it:

(1) allows the data supplier and the health care provider to verify the accuracy of the information submitted to the committee and submit to the committee any corrections of errors with supporting evidence and comments within a reasonable period of time to be established by rule;

(2) corrects data found to be in error; and

(3) allows the data supplier a reasonable amount of time prior to publication to review the committee’s interpretation of the data and prepare a response.

Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-33a-108. Disclosure of identifiable health data prohibited.

(1) All information, reports, statements, memoranda, or other data received by the committee are strictly confidential. Any use, release, or publication of the information shall be done in such a way that no person is identifiable except as provided in Sections 26-33a-107 and 26-33a-109.

(2) No member of the committee may be held civilly liable by reason of having released or published reports or compilations of data supplied to the committee, so long as the publication or release is in accordance with the requirements of Subsection (1).

(3) No person, corporation, or entity may be held civilly liable for having provided data to the committee in accordance with this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 201, 1996 General Session

26-33a-109. Exceptions to prohibition on disclosure of identifiable health data.

(1) The committee may not disclose any identifiable health data unless:

(a) the individual has authorized the disclosure; or

(b) the disclosure complies with the provisions of this section.

(2) The committee shall consider the following when responding to a request for disclosure of information that may include identifiable health data:

(a) whether the request comes from a person after that person has received approval to do the specific research and statistical work from an institutional review board; and

(b) whether the requesting entity complies with the provisions of Subsection (3).

(3) A request for disclosure of information that may include identifiable health data shall:

(a) be for a specified period; or

(b) be solely for bona fide research and statistical purposes as determined in accordance with administrative rules adopted by the department, which shall require:

(i) the requesting entity to demonstrate to the department that the data is required for the research and statistical purposes proposed by the requesting entity; and

(ii) the requesting entity to enter into a written agreement satisfactory to the department to protect the data in accordance with this chapter or other applicable law.

(4) A person accessing identifiable health data pursuant to Subsection (3) may not further disclose the identifiable health data:

(a) without prior approval of the department; and

(b) unless the identifiable health data is disclosed or identified by control number only.

Amended by Chapter 68, 2010 General Session

26-33a-110. Penalties.

(1) Any use, release, or publication of health care data contrary to the provisions of Sections 26-33a-108 and 26-33a-109 is a class A misdemeanor.

(2) Subsection (1) does not relieve the person or organization responsible for that use, release, or publication from civil liability.

Enacted by Chapter 305, 1990 General Session

26-33a-111. Health data not subject to subpoena or compulsory process --

Exception.

Identifiable health data obtained in the course of activities undertaken or supported under this chapter are not subject to subpoena or similar compulsory process in any civil or criminal, judicial, administrative, or legislative proceeding, nor shall any individual or organization with lawful access to identifiable health data under the provisions of this chapter be compelled to testify with regard to such health data, except that data pertaining to a party in litigation may be subject to subpoena or similar compulsory process in an action brought by or on behalf of such individual to enforce any liability arising under this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-33a-115. Consumer-focused health care delivery and payment reform demonstration project.

(1) The Legislature finds that:

(a) current health care delivery and payment systems do not provide system wide incentives for the competitive delivery and pricing of health care services to consumers;

(b) there is a compelling state interest to encourage consumers to seek high quality, low cost care and educate themselves about health care options;

(c) some health care providers and health care payers have developed consumer-focused ideas for health care delivery and payment system reform, but lack the critical number of patient lives and payer involvement to accomplish system-wide consumer-focused reform; and

(d) there is a compelling state interest to encourage as many health care providers and health care payers to join together and coordinate efforts at consumer-focused health care delivery and payment reform that would provide to consumers enrolled in a high-deductible health plan:

(i) greater choice in health care options;

(ii) improved services through competition; and

(iii) more affordable options for care.

(2) (a) The department shall meet with health care providers and health care payers for the purpose of coordinating a demonstration project for consumer-based health care delivery and payment reform.

(b) Participation in the coordination efforts is voluntary, but encouraged.

(3) The department, in order to facilitate the coordination of a demonstration project for consumer-based health care delivery and payment reform, shall convene and consult with pertinent entities including:

(a) the Utah Insurance Department;

(b) the Office of Consumer Health Services;

(c) the Utah Medical Association;

(d) the Utah Hospital Association; and

(e) neutral, non-biased third parties with an established record for broad based, multi-provider and multi-payer quality assurance efforts and data collection.

(4) The department shall supervise the efforts by entities under Subsection (3) regarding:

(a) applying for and obtaining grant funding and other financial assistance that may be available for demonstrating consumer-based improvements to health care delivery and payment;

(b) obtaining and analyzing information and data related to current health system utilization and costs to consumers; and

(c) consulting with those health care providers and health care payers who elect to participate in the consumer-based health delivery and payment demonstration project.

(5) The executive director shall report to the Health System Reform Task Force by January 1, 2015, regarding the progress toward coordination of consumer-focused health care system payment and delivery reform.

Enacted by Chapter 102, 2013 General Session

26-34-1. Short title.

This act is known as the "Uniform Determination of Death Act."

Enacted by Chapter 276, 1989 General Session

26-34-2. Definition of death -- Determination of death.

(1) An individual is dead if the individual has sustained either:

(a) irreversible cessation of circulatory and respiratory functions; or

(b) irreversible cessation of all functions of the entire brain, including the brain stem.

(2) A determination of death shall be made in accordance with accepted medical standards.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-35a-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Nursing Care Facility Assessment Act."

Enacted by Chapter 284, 2004 General Session

26-35a-102. Legislative findings.

(1) The Legislature finds that there is an important state purpose to improve the quality of care given to persons who are elderly and to people who have a disability, in long-term care nursing facilities.

(2) The Legislature finds that in order to improve the quality of care to those persons described in Subsection (1), the rates paid to the nursing care facilities by the Medicaid program must be adequate to encourage and support quality care.

(3) The Legislature finds that in order to meet the objectives in Subsections (1) and (2), adequate funding must be provided to increase the rates paid to nursing care facilities providing services pursuant to the Medicaid program.

Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-35a-103. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) (a) "Nursing care facility" means:

(i) a nursing care facility described in Subsection 26-21-2(17);

(ii) beginning January 1, 2006, a designated swing bed in:

(A) a general acute hospital as defined in Subsection 26-21-2(11); and

(B) a critical access hospital which meets the criteria of 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1395i-4(c)(2) (1998); and

(iii) an intermediate care facility for people with an intellectual disability that is licensed under Section 26-21-13.5.

(b) "Nursing care facility" does not include:

(i) the Utah State Developmental Center;

(ii) the Utah State Hospital;

(iii) a general acute hospital, specialty hospital, or small health care facility as defined in Section 26-21-2; or

(iv) a Utah State Veterans' Home.

(2) "Patient day" means each calendar day in which an individual patient is admitted to the nursing care facility during a calendar month, even if on a temporary leave of absence from the facility.

Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-35a-104. Collection, remittance, and payment of nursing care facilities assessment.

(1) (a) Beginning July 1, 2004, an assessment is imposed upon each nursing care facility in the amount designated in Subsection (1)(c).

(b) (i) The department shall establish by rule, a uniform rate per non-Medicare patient day that may not exceed 6% of the total gross revenue for services provided to patients of all nursing care facilities licensed in this state.

(ii) For purposes of Subsection (1)(b)(i), total revenue does not include charitable contribution received by a nursing care facility.

(c) The department shall calculate the assessment imposed under Subsection (1)(a) by multiplying the total number of patient days of care provided to non-Medicare patients by the nursing care facility, as provided to the department pursuant to Subsection (3)(a), by the uniform rate established by the department pursuant to Subsection (1)(b).

(2) (a) The assessment imposed by this chapter is due and payable on a monthly basis on or before the last day of the month next succeeding each monthly period.

(b) The collecting agent for this assessment shall be the department which is vested with the administration and enforcement of this chapter, including the right to audit records of a nursing care facility related to patient days of care for the facility.

(c) The department shall forward proceeds from the assessment imposed by this chapter to the state treasurer for deposit in the restricted account as specified in Section 26-35a-106.

(3) Each nursing care facility shall, on or before the end of the month next

succeeding each calendar monthly period, file with the department:

(a) a report which includes:

(i) the total number of patient days of care the facility provided to non-Medicare patients during the preceding month;

(ii) the total gross revenue the facility earned as compensation for services provided to patients during the preceding month; and

(iii) any other information required by the department; and

(b) a return for the monthly period, and shall remit with the return the assessment required by this chapter to be paid for the period covered by the return.

(4) Each return shall contain information and be in the form the department prescribes by rule.

(5) The assessment as computed in the return is an allowable cost for Medicaid reimbursement purposes.

(6) The department may by rule, extend the time for making returns and paying the assessment.

(7) Each nursing care facility that fails to pay any assessment required to be paid to the state, within the time required by this chapter, or that fails to file a return as required by this chapter, shall pay, in addition to the assessment, penalties and interest as provided in Section 26-35a-105.

Enacted by Chapter 284, 2004 General Session

26-35a-105. Penalties and interest.

(1) The penalty for failure to file a return or pay the assessment due within the time prescribed by this chapter is the greater of $50, or 1% of the assessment due on the return.

(2) For failure to pay within 30 days of a notice of deficiency of assessment required to be paid, the penalty is the greater of $50 or 5% of the assessment due.

(3) The penalty for underpayment of the assessment is as follows:

(a) If any underpayment of assessment is due to negligence, the penalty is 25% of the underpayment.

(b) If the underpayment of the assessment is due to intentional disregard of law or rule, the penalty is 50% of the underpayment.

(4) For intent to evade the assessment, the penalty is 100% of the underpayment.

(5) The rate of interest applicable to an underpayment of an assessment under this chapter or an unpaid penalty under this chapter is 12% annually.

(6) The department may waive the imposition of a penalty for good cause.

Enacted by Chapter 284, 2004 General Session

26-35a-106. Restricted account -- Creation -- Deposits.

(1) (a) There is created a restricted account in the General Fund known as the "Nursing Care Facilities Account" consisting of:

(i) proceeds from the assessment imposed by Section 26-35a-104 which shall be deposited in the restricted account to be used for the purpose described in

Subsection (1)(b);

(ii) money appropriated or otherwise made available by the Legislature; and

(iii) any interest earned on the account.

(b) (i) Money in the account shall only be used:

(A) to the extent authorized by federal law, to obtain federal financial participation in the Medicaid program;

(B) to provide the increased level of hospice reimbursement resulting from the nursing care facilities assessment imposed under Section 26-35a-104; and

(C) in the manner described in Subsection (1)(b)(ii).

(ii) The money appropriated from the restricted account to the department:

(A) shall be used only to increase the rates paid prior to the effective date of this act to nursing care facilities for providing services pursuant to the Medicaid program and for administrative expenses as described in Subsection (1)(b)(ii)(C);

(B) may not be used to replace existing state expenditures paid to nursing care facilities for providing services pursuant to the Medicaid program, except for increased costs due to hospice reimbursement under Subsection (1)(b)(i)(B); and

(C) may be used for administrative expenses, if the administrative expenses for the fiscal year do not exceed 3% of the money deposited into the restricted account during the fiscal year.

(2) Money shall be appropriated from the restricted account to the department for the purposes described in Subsection (1)(b) in accordance with Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act.

Amended by Chapter 340, 2010 General Session

26-35a-107. Adjustment to nursing care facility Medicaid reimbursement rates.

If federal law or regulation prohibits the money in the Nursing Care Facilities Account from being used in the manner set forth in Subsection 26-35a-106(1)(b), the rates paid to nursing care facilities for providing services pursuant to the Medicaid program shall be changed as follows:

(1) except as otherwise provided in Subsection (2), to the rates paid to nursing care facilities on June 30, 2004; or

(2) if the Legislature or the department has on or after July 1, 2004, changed the rates paid to facilities through a manner other than the use of expenditures from the Nursing Care Facilities Account, to the rates provided for by the Legislature or the department.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-35a-108. Intermediate care facility for people with an intellectual disability -- Uniform rate.

An intermediate care facility for people with an intellectual disability is subject to all the provisions of this chapter, except that the department shall establish a uniform rate for an intermediate care facility for people with an intellectual disability that:

(1) is based on the same formula specified for nursing care facilities under the

provisions of Subsection 26-35a-104(1)(b); and

(2) may be different than the uniform rate established for other nursing care facilities.

Amended by Chapter 366, 2011 General Session

26-36a-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Hospital Provider Assessment Act."

Enacted by Chapter 179, 2010 General Session

26-36a-102. Legislative findings.

(1) The Legislature finds that there is an important state purpose to improve the access of Medicaid patients to quality care in Utah hospitals because of continuous decreases in state revenues and increases in enrollment under the Utah Medicaid program.

(2) The Legislature finds that in order to improve this access to those persons described in Subsection (1):

(a) the rates paid to Utah hospitals shall be adequate to encourage and support improved access; and

(b) adequate funding shall be provided to increase the rates paid to Utah hospitals providing services pursuant to the Utah Medicaid program.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-36a-103. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Accountable care organization" means a managed care organization, as defined in 42 C.F.R. Sec. 438, that contracts with the department under the provisions of Section 26-18-405.

(2) "Assessment" means the Medicaid hospital provider assessment established by this chapter.

(3) "Discharges" means the number of total hospital discharges reported on worksheet S-3 Part I, column 15, lines 12, 14, and 14.01 of the 2552-96 Medicare Cost Report or on Worksheet S-3 Part I, column 15, lines 14, 16, and 17 of the 2552-10 Medicare Cost Report for the applicable assessment year.

(4) "Division" means the Division of Health Care Financing of the department.

(5) "Hospital":

(a) means a privately owned:

(i) general acute hospital operating in the state as defined in Section 26-21-2; and

(ii) specialty hospital operating in the state, which shall include a privately owned hospital whose inpatient admissions are predominantly:

(A) rehabilitation;

(B) psychiatric;

(C) chemical dependency; or

(D) long-term acute care services; and
(b) does not include:
(i) a residential care or treatment facility as defined in Section 62A-2-101;
(ii) a hospital owned by the federal government, including the Veterans Administration Hospital; or
(iii) a hospital that is owned by the state government, a state agency, or a political subdivision of the state, including:
(A) a state-owned teaching hospital; and
(B) the Utah State Hospital.
(6) "Medicare cost report" means CMS-2552-96 or CMS-2552-10, the cost report for electronic filing of hospitals.
(7) "State plan amendment" means a change or update to the state Medicaid plan.

Amended by Chapter 32, 2013 General Session

26-36a-201. Application of chapter.
(1) Other than for the imposition of the assessment described in this chapter, nothing in this chapter shall affect the nonprofit or tax exempt status of any nonprofit charitable, religious, or educational health care provider under:
(a) Section 501(c), as amended, of the Internal Revenue Code;
(b) other applicable federal law;
(c) any state law;
(d) any ad valorem property taxes;
(e) any sales or use taxes; or
(f) any other taxes, fees, or assessments, whether imposed or sought to be imposed by the state or any political subdivision, county, municipality, district, authority, or any agency or department thereof.
(2) All assessments paid under this chapter may be included as an allowable cost of a hospital for purposes of any applicable Medicaid reimbursement formula.
(3) This chapter does not authorize a political subdivision of the state to:
(a) license a hospital for revenue;
(b) impose a tax or assessment upon hospitals; or
(c) impose a tax or assessment measured by the income or earnings of a hospital.

Enacted by Chapter 179, 2010 General Session

26-36a-202. Assessment, collection, and payment of hospital provider assessment.
(1) A uniform, broad based, assessment is imposed on each hospital as defined in Subsection 26-36a-103(5)(a):
(a) in the amount designated in Section 26-36a-203; and
(b) in accordance with Section 26-36a-204.
(2) (a) The assessment imposed by this chapter is due and payable on a quarterly basis in accordance with Section 26-36a-204.

(b) The collecting agent for this assessment is the department which is vested with the administration and enforcement of this chapter, including the right to adopt administrative rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, necessary to:

(i) implement and enforce the provisions of this act; and

(ii) audit records of a facility:

(A) that is subject to the assessment imposed by this chapter; and

(B) does not file a Medicare cost report.

(c) The department shall forward proceeds from the assessment imposed by this chapter to the state treasurer for deposit in the expendable special revenue fund as specified in Section 26-36a-207.

(3) The department may, by rule, extend the time for paying the assessment.

Amended by Chapter 32, 2013 General Session
Amended by Chapter 400, 2013 General Session

26-36a-203. Calculation of assessment.

(1) (a) An annual assessment is payable on a quarterly basis for each hospital in an amount calculated at a uniform assessment rate for each hospital discharge, in accordance with this section.

(b) The uniform assessment rate shall be determined using the total number of hospital discharges for assessed hospitals divided into the total non-federal portion in an amount consistent with Section 26-36a-205 that is needed to support capitated rates for accountable care organizations for purposes of hospital services provided to Medicaid enrollees.

(c) Any quarterly changes to the uniform assessment rate shall be applied uniformly to all assessed hospitals.

(d) The annual uniform assessment rate may not generate more than:

(i) $1,000,000 to offset Medicaid mandatory expenditures; and

(ii) the non-federal share to seed amounts needed to support capitated rates for accountable care organizations as provided for in Subsection (1)(b).

(2) (a) For each state fiscal year, discharges shall be determined using the data from each hospital's Medicare Cost Report contained in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Healthcare Cost Report Information System file. The hospital's discharge data will be derived as follows:

(i) for state fiscal year 2013, the hospital's cost report data for the hospital's fiscal year ending between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010;

(ii) for state fiscal year 2014, the hospital's cost report data for the hospital's fiscal year ending between July 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011;

(iii) for state fiscal year 2015, the hospital's cost report data for the hospital's fiscal year ending between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2012; and

(iv) for state fiscal year 2016, the hospital's cost report data for the hospital's fiscal year ending between July 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013.

(b) If a hospital's fiscal year Medicare Cost Report is not contained in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Healthcare Cost Report Information System file:

(i) the hospital shall submit to the division a copy of the hospital's Medicare Cost Report applicable to the assessment year; and

(ii) the division shall determine the hospital's discharges.

(c) If a hospital is not certified by the Medicare program and is not required to file a Medicare Cost Report:

(i) the hospital shall submit to the division its applicable fiscal year discharges with supporting documentation;

(ii) the division shall determine the hospital's discharges from the information submitted under Subsection (2)(c)(i); and

(iii) the failure to submit discharge information shall result in an audit of the hospital's records and a penalty equal to 5% of the calculated assessment.

(3) Except as provided in Subsection (4), if a hospital is owned by an organization that owns more than one hospital in the state:

(a) the assessment for each hospital shall be separately calculated by the department; and

(b) each separate hospital shall pay the assessment imposed by this chapter.

(4) Notwithstanding the requirement of Subsection (3), if multiple hospitals use the same Medicaid provider number:

(a) the department shall calculate the assessment in the aggregate for the hospitals using the same Medicaid provider number; and

(b) the hospitals may pay the assessment in the aggregate.

Amended by Chapter 32, 2013 General Session

26-36a-204. Quarterly notice -- Collection.

Quarterly assessments imposed by this chapter shall be paid to the division within 15 business days after the original invoice date that appears on the invoice issued by the division.

Amended by Chapter 32, 2013 General Session

26-36a-205. Medicaid hospital adjustment under accountable care organization rates.

To preserve and improve access to hospital services, the division shall, for accountable care organization rates effective on or after April 1, 2013, incorporate an annualized amount equal to $154 million into the accountable care organization rate structure calculation consistent with the certified actuarial rate range.

Amended by Chapter 32, 2013 General Session

26-36a-206. Penalties and interest.

(1) A facility that fails to pay any assessment or file a return as required under this chapter, within the time required by this chapter, shall pay, in addition to the assessment, penalties and interest established by the department.

(2) (a) Consistent with Subsection (2)(b), the department shall adopt rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, which

establish reasonable penalties and interest for the violations described in Subsection (1).

(b) If a hospital fails to timely pay the full amount of a quarterly assessment, the department shall add to the assessment:

(i) a penalty equal to 5% of the quarterly amount not paid on or before the due date; and

(ii) on the last day of each quarter after the due date until the assessed amount and the penalty imposed under Subsection (2)(b)(i) are paid in full, an additional 5% penalty on:

(A) any unpaid quarterly assessment; and

(B) any unpaid penalty assessment.

(c) Upon making a record of its actions, and upon reasonable cause shown, the division may waive, reduce, or compromise any of the penalties imposed under this part.

Amended by Chapter 32, 2013 General Session
Amended by Chapter 278, 2013 General Session

26-36a-207. Hospital Provider Assessment Expendable Revenue Fund.

(1) There is created an expendable special revenue fund known as the "Hospital Provider Assessment Expendable Revenue Fund."

(2) The fund shall consist of:

(a) the assessments collected by the department under this chapter;

(b) any interest and penalties levied with the administration of this chapter; and

(c) any other funds received as donations for the fund and appropriations from other sources.

(3) Money in the fund shall be used:

(a) to support capitated rates consistent with Subsection 26-36a-203(1)(d) for accountable care organizations; and

(b) to reimburse money collected by the division from a hospital through a mistake made under this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 32, 2013 General Session
Amended by Chapter 400, 2013 General Session

26-36a-208. Repeal of assessment.

(1) The repeal of the assessment imposed by this chapter shall occur upon the certification by the executive director of the department that the sooner of the following has occurred:

(a) the effective date of any action by Congress that would disqualify the assessment imposed by this chapter from counting towards state Medicaid funds available to be used to determine the federal financial participation;

(b) the effective date of any decision, enactment, or other determination by the Legislature or by any court, officer, department, or agency of the state, or of the federal government that has the effect of:

(i) disqualifying the assessment from counting towards state Medicaid funds

available to be used to determine federal financial participation for Medicaid matching funds; or

(ii) creating for any reason a failure of the state to use the assessments for the Medicaid program as described in this chapter;

(c) the effective date of:

(i) an appropriation for any state fiscal year from the General Fund for hospital payments under the state Medicaid program that is less than the amount appropriated for state fiscal year 2012;

(ii) the annual revenues of the state General Fund budget return to the level that was appropriated for fiscal year 2008;

(iii) approval of any change in the state Medicaid plan that requires a greater percentage of Medicaid patients to enroll in Medicaid managed care plans than what is required:

(A) to implement accountable care organizations in the state plan; and

(B) by other managed care enrollment requirements in effect on or before January 1, 2012;

(iv) a division change in rules that reduces any of the following below July 1, 2011 payments:

(A) aggregate hospital inpatient payments;

(B) adjustment payment rates; or

(C) any cost settlement protocol; or

(v) a division change in rules that reduces the aggregate outpatient payments below July 1, 2011 payments; and

(d) the sunset of this chapter in accordance with Section 63I-1-226.

(2) If the assessment is repealed under Subsection (1), money in the fund that was derived from assessments imposed by this chapter, before the determination made under Subsection (1), shall be disbursed under Section 26-36a-205 to the extent federal matching is not reduced due to the impermissibility of the assessments. Any funds remaining in the special revenue fund shall be refunded to the hospitals in proportion to the amount paid by each hospital.

Amended by Chapter 32, 2013 General Session

26-38-1. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Utah Indoor Clean Air Act."

Enacted by Chapter 281, 1994 General Session

26-38-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "E-cigarette":

(a) means any electronic oral device:

(i) that provides a vapor of nicotine or other substance; and

(ii) which simulates smoking through its use or through inhalation of the device; and

(b) includes an oral device that is:

(i) composed of a heating element, battery, or electronic circuit; and

(ii) marketed, manufactured, distributed, or sold as:

(A) an e-cigarette;

(B) e-cigar;

(C) e-pipe; or

(D) any other product name or descriptor, if the function of the product meets the definition of Subsection (1)(a).

(2) "Place of public access" means any enclosed indoor place of business, commerce, banking, financial service, or other service-related activity, whether publicly or privately owned and whether operated for profit or not, to which persons not employed at the place of public access have general and regular access or which the public uses, including:

(a) buildings, offices, shops, elevators, or restrooms;

(b) means of transportation or common carrier waiting rooms;

(c) restaurants, cafes, or cafeterias;

(d) taverns as defined in Section 32B-1-102, or cabarets;

(e) shopping malls, retail stores, grocery stores, or arcades;

(f) libraries, theaters, concert halls, museums, art galleries, planetariums, historical sites, auditoriums, or arenas;

(g) barber shops, hair salons, or laundromats;

(h) sports or fitness facilities;

(i) common areas of nursing homes, hospitals, resorts, hotels, motels, "bed and breakfast" lodging facilities, and other similar lodging facilities, including the lobbies, hallways, elevators, restaurants, cafeterias, other designated dining areas, and restrooms of any of these;

(j) (i) any child care facility or program subject to licensure or certification under this title, including those operated in private homes, when any child cared for under that license is present; and

(ii) any child care, other than child care as defined in Section 26-39-102, that is not subject to licensure or certification under this title, when any child cared for by the provider, other than the child of the provider, is present;

(k) public or private elementary or secondary school buildings and educational facilities or the property on which those facilities are located;

(l) any building owned, rented, leased, or otherwise operated by a social, fraternal, or religious organization when used solely by the organization members or their guests or families;

(m) any facility rented or leased for private functions from which the general public is excluded and arrangements for the function are under the control of the function sponsor;

(n) any workplace that is not a place of public access or a publicly owned building or office but has one or more employees who are not owner-operators of the business;

(o) any area where the proprietor or manager of the area has posted a conspicuous sign stating "no smoking", "thank you for not smoking", or similar statement; and

(p) a holder of a club license, as defined in Section 32B-1-102.

(3) "Publicly owned building or office" means any enclosed indoor place or portion of a place owned, leased, or rented by any state, county, or municipal government, or by any agency supported by appropriation of, or by contracts or grants from, funds derived from the collection of federal, state, county, or municipal taxes.

(4) "Smoking" means:

(a) the possession of any lighted or heated tobacco product in any form;

(b) inhaling, exhaling, burning, or heating a substance containing tobacco or nicotine intended for inhalation through a cigar, cigarette, pipe, or hookah;

(c) except as provided in Section 26-38-2.6, using an e-cigarette; or

(d) using an oral smoking device intended to circumvent the prohibition of smoking in this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 171, 2012 General Session

26-38-2.5. Temporary exemption for certain restrictions on heated tobacco.

(1) The definition of "smoking" which prohibits heated tobacco inhaled or exhaled through a hookah does not apply to a place of public access if the place of public access meets the requirements of Subsections (2) and (3).

(2) (a) A place of public access shall certify to the department by July 1, 2012, under penalty of perjury, that it meets the requirements of Subsection (3) and should be exempt under this section.

(b) The department:

(i) shall verify that the place of public access complies with the provisions of Subsection (3) at the time of the certification under Subsection (2)(a);

(ii) may ask the local health department with jurisdiction over the place of public access to verify that the place of public access complies with the provisions of Subsection (3);

(iii) shall issue a certificate of exemption if the place of public access is found to comply with the provisions of Subsection (3);

(iv) may itself, or through the local health department, verify at other times that the place of public access is in compliance with the provisions of Subsection (3); and

(v) may in accordance with Section 63J-1-504, impose a fee to recover the cost of certifying the place of public access as exempt under this section and enforce the provisions of this section.

(c) A local health department may impose a reasonable fee to cover the cost of verifying a place of public access complies with the provisions of Subsection (3) at the time of the application under Subsection (2)(a) and during the time of the exemption.

(d) Notwithstanding Section 26-38-8, if the department or a local health department determines that the place of public access has violated any provision of Subsection (3), the department may impose penalties in accordance with Section 26-23-6.

(3) (a) A place of public access must meet the following criteria to claim an exemption under this section:

(i) prior to January 1, 2012:

(A) the place of public access had and continues to have a class C or D liquor

license;

(B) the place of public access sold a mixture of tobacco and other flavors for the purpose of heating, inhaling and exhaling the tobacco mixture through a hookah pipe in the place of public access; and

(C) the sale of the mixture of tobacco and other flavors for use in a hookah pipe in the place of public access constituted at least 10% of the establishment's gross sales; and

(ii) during the period of the exemption under this section, the place of public access:

(A) shall maintain its class C or D liquor license;

(B) shall admit only individuals 21 years of age and older into the place of public access;

(C) shall prominently display signs on the premises and in advertisements that disclose the dangers of second hand smoke and inhaling tobacco in accordance with administrative rules adopted by the department;

(D) shall require that only tobacco products sold by the place of public access may be heated, inhaled, and exhaled in the place of public access; and

(E) may not sell a product for use in a hookah that contains more than 30% tobacco or more than .05% nicotine.

(4) The department shall adopt administrative rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Administrative Rulemaking Act, specifying the:

(a) written information a facility shall include in a sign posted under Subsection (3)(a)(ii)(C) and in advertisements; and

(b) the size and number of signs that shall be posted in a facility.

(5) This section sunsets in accordance with Section 63I-1-226.

Enacted by Chapter 171, 2012 General Session

26-38-2.6. Temporary exemption for certain restrictions on the use of e-cigarettes.

(1) The prohibition against the use of an e-cigarette in a place of public access does not apply if:

(a) the use of the e-cigarette occurs in the place of public access that is a retail establishment that sells e-cigarettes and the use is for the purpose of:

(i) the retailer of an e-cigarette demonstrating to the purchaser of the e-cigarette how to use the e-cigarette; or

(ii) the customer sampling a product sold by the retailer for use in an e-cigarette; and

(b) the retailer of e-cigarettes:

(i) has all required licenses for the possession and sale of e-cigarettes in a place of business;

(ii) does not permit a person under the age of 19 to enter any part of the premises of the retail establishment in which the e-cigarettes are sold; and

(iii) the sale of e-cigarettes and substances for use in e-cigarettes constitutes at least 75% of the establishment's gross sales.

(2) This section does not require a county or municipality to issue a license to a

person to sell e-cigarettes.

(3) This section sunsets in accordance with Section 63I-1-226.

Enacted by Chapter 171, 2012 General Session

26-38-3. Restriction on smoking in public places and in specified places -- Exceptions.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), smoking is prohibited in all enclosed indoor places of public access and publicly owned buildings and offices.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:

(a) areas not commonly open to the public of owner-operated businesses having no employees other than the owner-operator;

(b) guest rooms in hotels, motels, "bed and breakfast" lodging facilities, and other similar lodging facilities, but smoking is prohibited under Subsection (1) in the common areas of these facilities, including dining areas and lobby areas; and

(c) separate enclosed smoking areas:

(i) located in the passenger terminals of an international airport located in the city of the first class;

(ii) vented directly to the outdoors; and

(iii) certified, by a heating, ventilation, and air conditioning engineer licensed by the state, to prevent the drift of any smoke to any nonsmoking area of the terminal.

Amended by Chapter 383, 2009 General Session

26-38-3.5. Smoking ban exemption for Native American ceremony.

(1) A person is exempt from the restrictions of Section 26-38-3 if the person:

(a) is a member of an American Indian tribe whose members are recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to American Indians who are members of those tribes;

(b) is an American Indian who actively practices an American Indian religion, the origin and interpretation of which is from a traditional American Indian culture;

(c) is smoking tobacco using the traditional pipe of an American Indian tribal religious ceremony, of which tribe the person is a member, and is smoking the pipe as part of that ceremony; and

(d) the ceremony is conducted by a pipe carrier, Indian spiritual person, or medicine person recognized by the tribe of which the person is a member and the Indian community.

(2) This section takes precedence over Section 26-38-3.

(3) A religious ceremony using a traditional pipe under this section is subject to any applicable state or local law, except as provided in this section.

Enacted by Chapter 125, 1995 General Session

26-38-6. Local ordinances.

(1) This chapter supersedes any ordinance enacted by the governing body of a political subdivision that restricts smoking in a place of public access as defined in

Section 26-38-2 and that is not essentially identical to the provisions of this chapter.

(2) This chapter does not supersede an ordinance enacted by the governing body of a political subdivision that restricts smoking in outdoor places of public access which are owned or operated by:

(a) a political subdivision as defined in Section 17B-1-102;

(b) a state institution of higher education; or

(c) a state institution of public education.

Amended by Chapter 44, 2007 General Session

26-38-7. Enforcement action by proprietors.

(1) An owner or the agent or employee of the owner of a place where smoking is prohibited under Subsection 26-38-3(1) who observes a person smoking in apparent violation of this chapter shall request the person to stop smoking.

(2) If the person fails to comply, the proprietor or the agent or employee of the proprietor shall ask the person to leave the premises.

Amended by Chapter 171, 2012 General Session

26-38-8. Penalties.

(1) A first violation of Section 26-38-3 is subject to a civil penalty of not more than $100.

(2) Any second or subsequent violation of Section 26-38-3 is subject to a civil penalty of not less than $100 and not more than $500.

Amended by Chapter 218, 2010 General Session

26-38-9. Enforcement of chapter.

(1) The state Department of Health and local health departments shall:

(a) enforce this chapter and shall coordinate their efforts to promote the most effective enforcement of this chapter; and

(b) impose the penalties under Subsection 26-38-8 in accordance with this section.

(2) When enforcing this chapter, the state Department of Health and the local health departments shall notify persons of alleged violations of this chapter, conduct hearings, and impose penalties in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

(3) Civil penalties collected under this section by:

(a) a local health department shall be paid to the treasurer of the county in which the violation was committed; and

(b) the state Department of Health shall be deposited in the General Fund.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-39-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Utah Child Care Licensing Act."

Enacted by Chapter 196, 1997 General Session

26-39-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Child care" means continuous care and supervision of five or more qualifying children, that is:

(a) in lieu of care ordinarily provided by a parent in the parent's home;

(b) for less than 24 hours a day; and

(c) for direct or indirect compensation.

(2) "Child care program" means a child care facility or program operated by a person who holds a license or certificate issued in accordance with this chapter.

(3) "Committee" means the Child Care Licensing Advisory Committee, created in Section 26-39-201.

(4) "Public school" means:

(a) a school, including a charter school, that:

(i) is directly funded at public expense; and

(ii) provides education to qualifying children for any grade from first grade through twelfth grade; or

(b) a school, including a charter school, that provides:

(i) preschool or kindergarten to qualifying children, regardless of whether the preschool or kindergarten is funded at public expense; and

(ii) education to qualifying children for any grade from first grade through twelfth grade, if each grade, from first grade to twelfth grade, that is provided at the school, is directly funded at public expense.

(5) "Qualifying child" means a person who is:

(a) (i) under the age of 13; or

(ii) under the age of 18, if the person has a disability; and

(b) a child of:

(i) a person other than the person providing care to the child;

(ii) a licensed or certified residential child care provider, if the child is under the age of four; or

(iii) an employee or owner of a licensed child care center, if the child is under the age of four.

(6) "Residential child care" means child care provided in the home of a provider.

Amended by Chapter 111, 2008 General Session

26-39-201. Child Care Licensing Advisory Committee.

(1) (a) There is established the Child Care Licensing Advisory Committee to advise the department on rules made by the department under this chapter.

(b) The committee shall be composed of the following 13 members who shall be appointed by the executive director:

(i) two child care consumers;

(ii) two licensed residential child care providers;

(iii) one certified residential child care provider;

(iv) five representatives of licensed child care center programs;
(v) one individual with expertise in early childhood development; and
(vi) two health care providers.
(2) Members shall be appointed for four-year terms, except for those members who have been appointed to complete an unexpired term. Appointments and reappointments may be staggered so that 1/4 of the committee changes each year. The committee shall annually elect a chairman from its membership.
(3) The committee shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently as determined by the executive director, the chairman, or three or more members of the committee. Seven members constitute a quorum and a vote of the majority of the members present constitutes an action of the committee.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 111, 2008 General Session

26-39-202. Members serve without pay -- Reimbursement for expenses.
A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
(1) Section 63A-3-106;
(2) Section 63A-3-107; and
(3) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

Repealed and Re-enacted by Chapter 286, 2010 General Session

26-39-301. Duties of the department.
(1) With regard to child care programs licensed under this chapter, the department may:
(a) make and enforce rules to implement this chapter and, as necessary to protect qualifying children's common needs for a safe and healthy environment, to provide for:
(i) adequate facilities and equipment; and
(ii) competent caregivers considering the age of the children and the type of program offered by the licensee;
(b) make and enforce rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter, in the following areas:
(i) requirements for applications, the application process, and compliance with other applicable statutes and rules;
(ii) documentation and policies and procedures that providers shall have in place in order to be licensed, in accordance with Subsection (1)(a);
(iii) categories, classifications, and duration of initial and ongoing licenses;
(iv) changes of ownership or name, changes in licensure status, and changes in operational status;
(v) license expiration and renewal, contents, and posting requirements;
(vi) procedures for inspections, complaint resolution, disciplinary actions, and other procedural measures to encourage and assure compliance with statute and rule; and

(vii) guidelines necessary to assure consistency and appropriateness in the regulation and discipline of licensees; and

(c) set and collect licensing and other fees in accordance with Section 26-1-6.

(2) Rules made under this chapter shall be made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(3) (a) The department may not regulate educational curricula, academic methods, or the educational philosophy or approach of the provider.

(b) The department shall allow for a broad range of educational training and academic background in certification or qualification of child day care directors.

(4) In licensing and regulating child care programs, the department shall reasonably balance the benefits and burdens of each regulation and, by rule, provide for a range of licensure, depending upon the needs and different levels and types of child care provided.

(5) Notwithstanding the definition of "qualifying child" in Section 26-39-102, the department shall count children through age 12 and children with disabilities through age 18 toward the minimum square footage requirement for indoor and outdoor areas, including the child of:

(a) a licensed residential child care provider; or

(b) an owner or employee of a licensed child care center.

(6) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a)(i), the department may not exclude floor space used for furniture, fixtures, or equipment from the minimum square footage requirement for indoor and outdoor areas if the furniture, fixture, or equipment is used:

(a) by qualifying children;

(b) for the care of qualifying children; or

(c) to store classroom materials.

(7) (a) A child care center constructed prior to January 1, 2004, and licensed and operated as a child care center continuously since January 1, 2004, is exempt from the department's group size restrictions, if the child to caregiver ratios are maintained, and adequate square footage is maintained for specific classrooms.

(b) An exemption granted under Subsection (7)(a) is transferrable to subsequent licensed operators at the center if a licensed child care center is continuously maintained at the center.

(8) The department shall develop, by rule, a five-year phased-in compliance schedule for playground equipment safety standards.

(9) Nothing in this chapter may be interpreted to grant a municipality or county the authority to license or certify a child care program.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 111, 2008 General Session

26-39-401. Licensure requirements -- Expiration -- Renewal.

(1) Except as provided in Section 26-39-403, a person shall be licensed or certified in accordance with this chapter if the person:

(a) provides or offers child care; or

(b) provides care to qualifying children and requests to be licensed.

(2) The department may issue licenses for a period not exceeding 24 months to child care providers who meet the requirements of:

(a) this chapter; and
(b) the department's rules governing child care programs.
(3) A license issued under this chapter is not assignable or transferable.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 111, 2008 General Session

26-39-402. Residential child care certificate.

(1) (a) A residential child care provider of five to eight qualifying children shall obtain a Residential Child Care Certificate from the department, unless Section 26-39-403 applies.

(b) The minimum qualifications for a Residential Child Care Certificate are:

(i) the submission of:

(A) an application in the form prescribed by the department;

(B) a certification and criminal background fee established in accordance with Section 26-1-6; and

(C) in accordance with Section 26-39-404, identifying information for each adult person and each juvenile age 12 through 17 years of age who resides in the provider's home:

(I) for processing by the Department of Public Safety to determine whether any such person has been convicted of a crime;

(II) to screen for a substantiated finding of child abuse or neglect by a juvenile court; and

(III) to discover whether the person is listed in the Licensing Information System described in Section 62A-4a-1006;

(ii) an initial and annual inspection of the provider's home within 90 days of sending an intent to inspect notice to:

(A) check the immunization record of each qualifying child who receives child care in the provider's home;

(B) identify serious sanitation, fire, and health hazards to qualifying children; and

(C) make appropriate recommendations; and

(iii) annual training consisting of 10 hours of department-approved training as specified by the department by administrative rule, including a current department-approved CPR and first aid course.

(c) If a serious sanitation, fire, or health hazard has been found during an inspection conducted pursuant to Subsection (1)(b)(ii), the department shall require corrective action for the serious hazards found and make an unannounced follow up inspection to determine compliance.

(d) In addition to an inspection conducted pursuant to Subsection (1)(b)(ii), the department may inspect the home of a residential care provider of five to eight qualifying children in response to a complaint of:

(i) child abuse or neglect;

(ii) serious health hazards in or around the provider's home; or

(iii) providing residential child care without the appropriate certificate or license.

(2) Notwithstanding this section:

(a) a license under Section 26-39-401 is required of a residential child care provider who cares for nine or more qualifying children;

(b) a certified residential child care provider may not provide care to more than two qualifying children under the age of two; and

(c) an inspection may be required of a residential child care provider in connection with a federal child care program.

(3) With respect to residential child care, the department may only make and enforce rules necessary to implement this section.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 111, 2008 General Session

26-39-403. Exclusions from chapter -- Criminal background checks by an excluded person.

(1) The provisions and requirements of this chapter do not apply to:

(a) a facility or program owned or operated by an agency of the United States government;

(b) group counseling provided by a mental health therapist, as defined in Section 58-60-102, who is licensed to practice in this state;

(c) a health care facility licensed pursuant to Title 26, Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act;

(d) care provided to qualifying children by or in the homes of parents, legal guardians, grandparents, brothers, sisters, uncles, or aunts;

(e) care provided to qualifying children, in the home of the provider, for less than four hours a day or on a sporadic basis, unless that child care directly affects or is related to a business licensed in this state;

(f) care provided to qualifying children as part of a course of study at or a program administered by an educational institution that is regulated by the boards of education of this state, a private education institution that provides education in lieu of that provided by the public education system, or by a parochial education institution;

(g) care provided to qualifying children by a public or private institution of higher education, if the care is provided in connection with a course of study or program, relating to the education or study of children, that is provided to students of the institution of higher education;

(h) care provided to qualifying children at a public school by an organization other than the public school, if:

(i) the care is provided under contract with the public school or on school property; or

(ii) the public school accepts responsibility and oversight for the care provided by the organization;

(i) care provided to qualifying children as part of a summer camp that operates on federal land pursuant to a federal permit;

(j) care provided by an organization that:

(i) qualifies for tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(ii) is provided pursuant to a written agreement with:

(A) a municipality, as defined in Section 10-1-104, that provides oversight for the program; or

(B) a county that provides oversight for the program; and

(iii) is provided to children who are over the age of four and under the age of 13; or

(k) care provided at a residential support program that is licensed by the Department of Human Services.

(2) A person who is excluded, under Subsection (1), from the provisions and requirements of this chapter, shall conduct a criminal background check on all of the person's employees who have access to a qualifying child to whom care is provided by the person.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 111, 2008 General Session

26-39-404. Disqualified individuals -- Criminal history checks -- Payment of costs.

(1) (a) Each person requesting a residential certificate or to be licensed or to renew a license under this chapter shall submit to the department the name and other identifying information, which shall include fingerprints, of existing, new, and proposed:

(i) owners;

(ii) directors;

(iii) members of the governing body;

(iv) employees;

(v) providers of care;

(vi) volunteers, except parents of children enrolled in the programs; and

(vii) all adults residing in a residence where child care is provided.

(b) A person seeking renewal of a residential certificate or license under this section is not required to submit fingerprints of an individual referred to in Subsections (1)(a)(i) through (vi), if:

(i) the individual has resided in Utah for the last five years and applied for a certificate or license before July 1, 2013;

(ii) the individual has:

(A) previously submitted fingerprints under this section for a national criminal history record check; and

(B) resided in Utah continuously since that time; or

(iii) as of May 3, 1999, the individual had one of the relationships under Subsection (1)(a) with a child care provider having a residential certificate or licensed under this section and the individual has resided in Utah continuously since that time.

(c) (i) The Utah Division of Criminal Investigation and Technical Services within the Department of Public Safety shall process the information required under Subsection (1)(a) to determine whether the individual has been convicted of any crime.

(ii) The Utah Division of Criminal Investigation and Technical Services shall submit fingerprints required under Subsection (1)(a) to the FBI for a national criminal history record check.

(iii) The applicant for the license or residential certificate shall pay the cost of conducting a record check under this Subsection (1)(c).

(2) (a) Each person requesting a residential certificate or to be licensed or to renew a license under this chapter shall submit to the department the name and other identifying information of any person age 12 through 17 who resides in the residence

where the child care is provided. The identifying information required for a person age 12 through 17 does not include fingerprints.

(b) The department shall access the juvenile court records to determine whether a person described in Subsection (1) or (2)(a) has been adjudicated in juvenile court of committing an act which if committed by an adult would be a felony or misdemeanor if:

(i) the person described in Subsection (1) is under the age of 28; or

(ii) the person described in Subsection (1) is:

(A) over the age of 28; and

(B) has been convicted, has pleaded no contest, or is currently subject to a plea in abeyance or diversion agreement for a felony or misdemeanor.

(3) Except as provided in Subsection (4), a licensee under this chapter may not permit a person who has been convicted, has pleaded no contest, or is currently subject to a plea in abeyance or diversion agreement for any felony or misdemeanor, or if the provisions of Subsection (2)(b) apply, who has been adjudicated in juvenile court of committing an act which if committed by an adult would be a felony or a misdemeanor, to:

(a) provide child care;

(b) provide volunteer services for a licensed child care program or a child care program operating under a residential child care certificate;

(c) reside at the premises where child care is provided; or

(d) function as an owner, director, or member of the governing body of a licensed child care program or a child care program operating under a residential child care certificate.

(4) (a) The department may, by rule, exempt the following from the restrictions of Subsection (3):

(i) specific misdemeanors; and

(ii) specific acts adjudicated in juvenile court, which if committed by an adult would be misdemeanors.

(b) In accordance with criteria established by rule, the executive director may consider and exempt individual cases involving misdemeanors, not otherwise exempt under Subsection (4)(a) from the restrictions of Subsection (3).

Amended by Chapter 276, 2013 General Session

26-39-501. Investigations -- Records.

(1) The department may conduct investigations necessary to enforce the provisions of this chapter.

(2) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Anonymous complainant" means a complainant for whom the department does not have the minimum personal identifying information necessary, including the complainant's full name, to attempt to communicate with the complainant after a complaint has been made.

(b) "Confidential complainant" means a complainant for whom the department has the minimum personal identifying information necessary, including the complainant's full name, to attempt to communicate with the complainant after a complaint has been made, but who elects under Subsection (3)(c) not to be identified to

the subject of the complaint.

(c) "Subject of the complaint" means the licensee or certificate holder about whom the complainant is informing the department.

(3) (a) If the department receives a complaint about a child care program or residential child care, the department shall:

(i) solicit information from the complainant to determine whether the complaint suggests actions or conditions that could pose a serious risk to the safety or well-being of a qualifying child;

(ii) as necessary:

(A) encourage the complainant to disclose the minimum personal identifying information necessary, including the complainant's full name, for the department to attempt to subsequently communicate with the complainant;

(B) inform the complainant that the department may not investigate an anonymous complaint;

(C) inform the complainant that the identity of a confidential complainant may be withheld from the subject of a complaint only as provided in Subsection (3)(c)(ii); and

(D) inform the complainant that the department may be limited in its use of information provided by a confidential complainant, as provided in Subsection (3)(c)(ii)(B); and

(iii) inform the complainant that a person is guilty of a class B misdemeanor under Section 76-8-506 if the person gives false information to the department with the purpose of inducing a change in that person's or another person's licensing or certification status.

(b) If the complainant elects to be an anonymous complainant, or if the complaint concerns events which occurred more than six weeks before the complainant contacted the department:

(i) shall refer the information in the complaint to the Division of Child and Family Services within the Department of Human Services, law enforcement, or any other appropriate agency, if the complaint suggests actions or conditions which could pose a serious risk to the safety or well-being of a child;

(ii) may not investigate or substantiate the complaint; and

(iii) may, during a regularly scheduled annual survey, inform the licensee or certificate holder who is the subject of the complaint of allegations or concerns raised by:

(A) the anonymous complainant; or

(B) the complainant who reported events more than six weeks after the events occurred.

(c) (i) If the complainant elects to be a confidential complainant, the department shall determine whether the complainant wishes to remain confidential:

(A) only until the investigation of the complaint has been completed; or

(B) indefinitely.

(ii) (A) If the complainant elects to remain confidential only until the investigation of the complaint has been completed, the department shall disclose the name of the complainant to the subject of the complaint at the completion of the investigation, but no sooner.

(B) If the complainant elects to remain confidential indefinitely, the department:

(I) notwithstanding Subsection 63G-2-201(5)(b), may not disclose the name of the complainant, including to the subject of the complaint; and

(II) may not use information provided by the complainant to substantiate an alleged violation of state law or department rule unless the department independently corroborates the information.

(4) (a) Prior to conducting an investigation of a child care program or residential child care in response to a complaint, a department investigator shall review the complaint with the investigator's supervisor.

(b) The investigator may proceed with the investigation only if:

(i) the supervisor determines the complaint is credible;

(ii) the complaint is not from an anonymous complainant; and

(iii) prior to the investigation, the investigator informs the subject of the complaint of:

(A) except as provided in Subsection (3)(c), the name of the complainant; and

(B) except as provided in Subsection (4)(c), the substance of the complaint.

(c) An investigator is not required to inform the subject of a complaint of the substance of the complaint prior to an investigation if doing so would jeopardize the investigation. However, the investigator shall inform the subject of the complaint of the substance of the complaint as soon as doing so will no longer jeopardize the investigation.

(5) If the department is unable to substantiate a complaint, any record related to the complaint or the investigation of the complaint:

(a) shall be classified under Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act, as:

(i) a private or controlled record if appropriate under Section 63G-2-302 or 63G-2-304; or

(ii) a protected record under Section 63G-2-305; and

(b) if disclosed in accordance with Subsection 63G-2-201(5)(b), may not identify an individual child care program, licensee, certificate holder, or complainant.

(6) Any record of the department related to a complaint by an anonymous complainant is a protected record under Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act, and, notwithstanding Subsection 63G-2-201(5)(b), may not be disclosed in a manner that identifies an individual child care program, licensee, certificate holder, or complainant.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 111, 2008 General Session
Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-39-601. License violations -- Penalties.

(1) The department may deny or revoke a license and otherwise invoke disciplinary penalties if it finds:

(a) evidence of committing or of aiding, abetting, or permitting the commission of any illegal act on the premises of the child care facility;

(b) a failure to meet the qualifications for licensure; or

(c) conduct adverse to the public health, morals, welfare, and safety of children under its care.

(2) The department may also place a department representative as a monitor in a facility, and may assess the cost of that monitoring to the facility, until the licensee has remedied the deficiencies that brought about the department action.

(3) The department may impose civil monetary penalties in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, if there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter, or rules made pursuant to this chapter, as follows:

(a) if significant problems exist that are likely to lead to the harm of a qualifying child, the department may impose a civil penalty of $50 to $1,000 per day; and

(b) if significant problems exist that result in actual harm to a qualifying child, the department may impose a civil penalty of $1,050 to $5,000 per day.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 111, 2008 General Session
Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-39-602. Offering or providing care in violation of chapter -- Misdemeanor.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Title 26, Chapter 23, Enforcement Provisions and Penalties, a person who provides or offers child care except as provided by this chapter is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 111, 2008 General Session

26-40-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Utah Children's Health Insurance Act."

Enacted by Chapter 360, 1998 General Session

26-40-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Child" means a person who is under 19 years of age.

(2) "Eligible child" means a child who qualifies for enrollment in the program as provided in Section 26-40-105.

(3) "Enrollee" means any child enrolled in the program.

(4) "Plan" means the department's plan submitted to the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1397ff.

(5) "Program" means the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program created by this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 1, 2000 General Session
Amended by Chapter 351, 2000 General Session

26-40-103. Creation and administration of the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program.

(1) There is created the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program to be administered by the department in accordance with the provisions of:

(a) this chapter; and

(b) the State Children's Health Insurance Program, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1397aa et seq.

(2) The department shall:

(a) prepare and submit the state's children's health insurance plan before May 1, 1998, and any amendments to the federal Department of Health and Human Services in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1397ff; and

(b) make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act regarding:

(i) eligibility requirements consistent with Subsection 26-18-3(8);

(ii) program benefits;

(iii) the level of coverage for each program benefit;

(iv) cost-sharing requirements for enrollees, which may not:

(A) exceed the guidelines set forth in 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1397ee; or

(B) impose deductible, copayment, or coinsurance requirements on an enrollee for well-child, well-baby, and immunizations;

(v) the administration of the program; and

(vi) a requirement that:

(A) enrollees in the program shall participate in the electronic exchange of clinical health records established in accordance with Section 26-1-37 unless the enrollee opts out of participation;

(B) prior to enrollment in the electronic exchange of clinical health records the enrollee shall receive notice of the enrollment in the electronic exchange of clinical health records and the right to opt out of participation at any time; and

(C) beginning July 1, 2012, when the program sends enrollment or renewal information to the enrollee and when the enrollee logs onto the program's website, the enrollee shall receive notice of the right to opt out of the electronic exchange of clinical health records.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-40-104. Utah Children's Health Insurance Program Advisory Council.

(1) There is created a Utah Children's Health Insurance Program Advisory Council consisting of at least eight and no more than 11 members appointed by the executive director of the department. The term of each appointment shall be three years. The appointments shall be staggered at one-year intervals to ensure continuity of the advisory council.

(2) The advisory council shall meet at least quarterly.

(3) The membership of the advisory council shall include at least one representative from each of the following groups:

(a) child health care providers;

(b) parents and guardians of children enrolled in the program;

(c) ethnic populations other than American Indians;

(d) American Indians;

(e) the Utah Association of Health Care Providers;

(f) health and accident and health insurance providers; and

(g) the general public.
(4) The advisory council shall advise the department on:
(a) benefits design;
(b) eligibility criteria;
(c) outreach;
(d) evaluation; and
(e) special strategies for under-served populations.
(5) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
(a) Section 63A-3-106;
(b) Section 63A-3-107; and
(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

Amended by Chapter 286, 2010 General Session

26-40-105. Eligibility.
(1) A child is eligible to enroll in the program if the child:
(a) is a bona fide Utah resident;
(b) is a citizen or legal resident of the United States;
(c) is under 19 years of age;
(d) does not have access to or coverage under other health insurance, including any coverage available through a parent or legal guardian's employer;
(e) is ineligible for Medicaid benefits;
(f) resides in a household whose gross family income, as defined by rule, is at or below 200% of the federal poverty level; and
(g) is not an inmate of a public institution or a patient in an institution for mental diseases.
(2) A child who qualifies for enrollment in the program under Subsection (1) may not be denied enrollment due to a diagnosis or pre-existing condition.
(3) (a) The department shall determine eligibility and send notification of the eligibility decision within 30 days after receiving the application for coverage.
(b) If the department cannot reach a decision because the applicant fails to take a required action, or because there is an administrative or other emergency beyond the department's control, the department shall:
(i) document the reason for the delay in the applicant's case record; and
(ii) inform the applicant of the status of the application and time frame for completion.
(4) The department may not close enrollment in the program for a child who is eligible to enroll in the program under the provisions of Subsection (1).
(5) (a) The program shall:
(i) apply for grants to make technology system improvements necessary to implement a simplified enrollment and renewal process in accordance with this Subsection (5); and
(ii) if funding is available, implement the simplified enrollment and renewal process in accordance with this Subsection (5).

(b) The simplified enrollment and renewal process:

(i) shall, in accordance with Section 59-1-403, provide an eligibility worker a process in which the eligibility worker:

(A) verifies the applicant's identity;

(B) gets consent to obtain the applicant's adjusted gross income from the State Tax Commission from:

(I) the applicant, if the applicant filed a single tax return; or

(II) both parties to a joint return, if the applicant filed a joint tax return; and

(C) obtains from the Utah State Tax Commission, the adjusted gross income of the applicant; and

(ii) may not change the eligibility requirements for the program.

Amended by Chapter 344, 2011 General Session

26-40-106. Program benefits.

(1) Until the department implements a plan under Subsection (2), program benefits may include:

(a) hospital services;

(b) physician services;

(c) laboratory services;

(d) prescription drugs;

(e) mental health services;

(f) basic dental services;

(g) preventive care including:

(i) routine physical examinations;

(ii) immunizations;

(iii) basic vision services; and

(iv) basic hearing services;

(h) limited home health and durable medical equipment services; and

(i) hospice care.

(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(d), no later than July 1, 2008, the medical program benefits shall be benchmarked, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1397cc, to be actuarially equivalent to a health benefit plan with the largest insured commercial enrollment offered by a health maintenance organization in the state.

(b) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(d), after July 1, 2012:

(i) medical program benefits may not exceed the benefit level described in Subsection (2)(a); and

(ii) medical program benefits shall be adjusted every July 1, thereafter to meet the benefit level described in Subsection (2)(a).

(c) The dental benefit plan shall be benchmarked, in accordance with the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009, to be equivalent to a dental benefit plan that has the largest insured, commercial, non-Medicaid enrollment of covered lives that is offered in the state, except that the utilization review mechanism for orthodontia shall be based on medical necessity. Dental program benefits shall be adjusted on July 1, 2012, and on July 1 every three years thereafter to meet the benefit level required by this Subsection (2)(c).

(d) The program benefits for enrollees who are at or below 100% of the federal poverty level are exempt from the benchmark requirements of Subsections (2)(a) and (2)(b).

Amended by Chapter 279, 2012 General Session

26-40-107. Limitation of benefits.

Abortion is not a covered benefit, except as provided in 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1397ee.

Enacted by Chapter 360, 1998 General Session

26-40-108. Funding.

(1) The program shall be funded by federal matching funds received under, together with state matching funds required by, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1397ee.

(2) Program expenditures in the following categories may not exceed 10% in the aggregate of all federal payments pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1397ee:

(a) other forms of child health assistance for children with gross family incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level;

(b) other health services initiatives to improve low-income children's health;

(c) outreach program expenditures; and

(d) administrative costs.

Amended by Chapter 391, 2010 General Session

26-40-109. Evaluation.

The department shall develop performance measures and annually evaluate the program's performance.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-40-110. Managed care -- Contracting for services.

(1) Program benefits provided to enrollees under the program, as described in Section 26-40-106, shall be delivered in a managed care system if the department determines that adequate services are available where the enrollee lives or resides.

(2) (a) The department shall use the following criteria to evaluate bids from health plans:

(i) ability to manage medical expenses, including mental health costs;

(ii) proven ability to handle accident and health insurance;

(iii) efficiency of claim paying procedures;

(iv) proven ability for managed care and quality assurance;

(v) provider contracting and discounts;

(vi) pharmacy benefit management;

(vii) an estimate of total charges for administering the pool;

(viii) ability to administer the pool in a cost-efficient manner;

(ix) the ability to provide adequate providers and services in the state;

(x) for contracts entered into or renewed on or after January 1, 2014, the ability

to meet quality measures for emergency room use and access to primary care established by the department under Subsection 26-18-408(4); and

(xi) other criteria established by the department.

(b) The dental benefits required by Section 26-40-106 may be bid out separately from other program benefits.

(c) Except for dental benefits, the department shall request bids for the program's benefits in 2008. The department shall request bids for the program's dental benefits in 2009. The department shall request bids for the program's benefits at least once every five years thereafter.

(d) The department's contract with health plans for the program's benefits shall include risk sharing provisions in which the health plan shall accept at least 75% of the risk for any difference between the department's premium payments per client and actual medical expenditures.

(3) The executive director shall report to and seek recommendations from the Health Advisory Council created in Section 26-1-7.5:

(a) if the division receives less than two bids or proposals under this section that are acceptable to the division or responsive to the bid; and

(b) before awarding a contract to a managed care system.

(4) (a) The department shall award contracts to responsive bidders if the department determines that a bid is acceptable and meets the criteria of Subsections (2)(a) and (d).

(b) The department may contract with the Group Insurance Division within the Utah State Retirement Office to provide services under Subsection (1) if:

(i) the executive director seeks the recommendation of the Health Advisory Council under Subsection (3); and

(ii) the executive director determines that the bids were not acceptable to the department.

(c) In accordance with Section 49-20-201, a contract awarded under Subsection (4)(b) is not subject to the risk sharing required by Subsection (2)(d).

(5) Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code, shall apply to this section.

Amended by Chapter 103, 2013 General Session

26-40-115. State contractor -- Employee and dependent health benefit plan coverage.

For purposes of Sections 17B-2a-818.5, 19-1-206, 63A-5-205, 63C-9-403, 72-6-107.5, and 79-2-404, "qualified health insurance coverage" means at the time the contract is entered into or renewed:

(1) a health benefit plan and employer contribution level with a combined actuarial value at least actuarially equivalent to the combined actuarial value of the benchmark plan determined by the Children's Health Insurance Program under Subsection 26-40-106(2)(a), and a contribution level of 50% of the premium for the employee and the dependents of the employee who reside or work in the state, in which:

(a) the employer pays at least 50% of the premium for the employee and the dependents of the employee who reside or work in the state; and

(b) for purposes of calculating actuarial equivalency under this Subsection (1)(b):

(i) rather that the benchmark plan's deductible, and the benchmark plan's out-of-pocket maximum based on income levels:

(A) the deductible is $1,000 per individual and $3,000 per family; and

(B) the out-of-pocket maximum is $3,000 per individual and $9,000 per family;

(ii) dental coverage is not required; and

(iii) other than Subsection 26-40-106(2)(a), the provisions of Section 26-40-106 do not apply; or

(2) a federally qualified high deductible health plan that, at a minimum:

(a) has a deductible that is either:

(i) the lowest deductible permitted for a federally qualified high deductible health plan; or

(ii) a deductible that is higher than the lowest deductible permitted for a federally qualified high deductible health plan, but includes an employer contribution to a health savings account in a dollar amount at least equal to the dollar amount difference between the lowest deductible permitted for a federally qualified high deductible plan and the deductible for the employer offered federally qualified high deductible plan;

(b) has an out-of-pocket maximum that does not exceed three times the amount of the annual deductible; and

(c) the employer pays 60% of the premium for the employee and the dependents of the employee who work or reside in the state.

Enacted by Chapter 400, 2011 General Session

26-40-116. Program to encourage appropriate emergency room use -- Application for waivers.

The program is subject to the provisions of Section 26-18-408 and shall apply for waivers in accordance with Subsection 26-18-408(5).

Enacted by Chapter 103, 2013 General Session

26-41-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Emergency Injection for Anaphylactic Reaction Act."

Enacted by Chapter 17, 1998 General Session

26-41-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Anaphylaxis" means a potentially life-threatening hypersensitivity to a substance.

(a) Symptoms of anaphylaxis may include shortness of breath, wheezing, difficulty breathing, difficulty talking or swallowing, hives, itching, swelling, shock, or asthma.

(b) Causes of anaphylaxis may include insect sting, food allergy, drug reaction,

and exercise.

(2) "Epinephrine auto-injector" means a disposable drug delivery system with a spring-activated concealed needle that is designed for emergency administration of epinephrine to provide rapid, convenient first-aid for persons suffering a potentially fatal anaphylactic reaction.

(3) "Qualified adult" means a person who:

(a) is 18 years of age or older; and

(b) has successfully completed the training program established in Section 26-41-104.

Amended by Chapter 64, 2008 General Session

26-41-103. Voluntary participation.

(1) This chapter does not create a duty or standard of care for a person to be trained in the use and storage of epinephrine auto-injectors.

(2) Except as provided in Subsections (3) and (5), a decision by a person to successfully complete a training program under Section 26-41-104 and to make emergency epinephrine auto-injectors available under the provisions of this chapter is voluntary.

(3) A school, school board, or school official may not prohibit or dissuade a teacher or other school employee at a primary or secondary school in the state, either public or private, from:

(a) completing a training program under Section 26-41-104;

(b) possessing or storing an epinephrine auto-injector on school property if:

(i) the teacher or school employee is a qualified adult; and

(ii) the possession and storage is in accordance with the training received under Section 26-41-104; or

(c) administering an epinephrine auto-injector to any person, if:

(i) the teacher or school employee is a qualified adult; and

(ii) the administration is in accordance with the training received under Section 26-41-104.

(4) A school, school board, or school official may encourage a teacher or other school employee to volunteer to become a qualified adult.

(5) (a) Each primary or secondary school in the state, both public and private, shall make an emergency epinephrine auto-injector available to any teacher or other school employee who:

(i) is employed at the school; and

(ii) is a qualified adult.

(b) This section does not require a school described in Subsection (5)(a) to keep more than one emergency epinephrine auto-injector on the school premises, so long as it may be quickly accessed by a teacher or other school employee, who is a qualified adult, in the event of an emergency.

(6) No school, school board, or school official shall retaliate or otherwise take adverse action against a teacher or other school employee for:

(a) volunteering under Subsection (2);

(b) engaging in conduct described in Subsection (3); or

(c) failing or refusing to become a qualified adult.

Amended by Chapter 64, 2008 General Session

26-41-104. Training in use of epinephrine auto-injector.

(1) (a) Each primary and secondary school in the state, both public and private, shall make initial and annual refresher training, regarding the storage and emergency use of an epinephrine auto-injector, available to any teacher or other school employee who volunteers to become a qualified adult.

(b) The training described in Subsection (1)(a) may be provided by the school nurse, or other person qualified to provide such training, designated by the school district physician, the medical director of the local health department, or the local emergency medical services director.

(2) A person who provides training under Subsection (1) or (6) shall include in the training:

(a) techniques for recognizing symptoms of anaphylaxis;

(b) standards and procedures for the storage and emergency use of epinephrine auto-injectors;

(c) emergency follow-up procedures, including calling the emergency 911 number and contacting, if possible, the student's parent and physician; and

(d) written materials covering the information required under this Subsection (2).

(3) A qualified adult shall retain for reference the written materials prepared in accordance with Subsection (2)(d).

(4) A public school shall permit a student to possess an epinephrine auto-injector or possess and self-administer an epinephrine auto-injector if:

(a) the student's parent or guardian signs a statement:

(i) authorizing the student to possess or possess and self-administer an epinephrine auto-injector; and

(ii) acknowledging that the student is responsible for, and capable of, possessing or possessing and self-administering an epinephrine auto-injector; and

(b) the student's health care provider provides a written statement that states that:

(i) it is medically appropriate for the student to possess or possess and self-administer an epinephrine auto-injector; and

(ii) the student should be in possession of the epinephrine auto-injector at all times.

(5) The Utah Department of Health, in cooperation with the state superintendent of public instruction, shall design forms to be used by public schools for the parental and health care providers statements described in Subsection (6).

(6) (a) The department:

(i) shall approve educational programs conducted by other persons, to train people under Subsection (6)(b) of this section, regarding the use and storage of emergency epinephrine auto-injectors; and

(ii) may, as funding is available, conduct educational programs to train people regarding the use of and storage of emergency epinephrine auto-injectors.

(b) A person who volunteers to receive training to administer an epinephrine

auto-injector under the provisions of this Subsection (6) shall demonstrate a need for the training to the department, which may be based upon occupational, volunteer, or family circumstances, and shall include:

(i) camp counselors;

(ii) scout leaders;

(iii) forest rangers;

(iv) tour guides; and

(v) other persons who have or reasonably expect to have responsibility for at least one other person as a result of the person's occupational or volunteer status.

(7) The department shall adopt rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to:

(a) establish and approve training programs in accordance with this section; and

(b) establish a procedure for determining the need for training under Subsection (6)(b)(v).

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-41-105. Authority to obtain and use an epinephrine auto-injector.

(1) A qualified adult who is a teacher or other school employee at a public or private primary or secondary school in the state, or a school nurse, may obtain from the school district physician, the medical director of the local health department, or the local emergency medical services director a prescription for epinephrine auto-injectors.

(2) A qualified adult may obtain from a physician, pharmacist, or any other person or entity authorized to prescribe or sell prescribed medicines or drugs, a prescription for an epinephrine auto-injector.

(3) A qualified adult:

(a) may immediately administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person exhibiting potentially life-threatening symptoms of anaphylaxis when a physician is not immediately available; and

(b) shall initiate emergency medical services or other appropriate medical follow-up in accordance with the training materials retained under Section 26-41-104 after administering an epinephrine auto-injector.

Amended by Chapter 64, 2008 General Session

26-41-106. Immunity from liability.

(1) A qualified adult who acts in good faith is not liable in any civil or criminal action for any act taken or not taken under the authority of this chapter with respect to an anaphylactic reaction.

(2) Section 53A-11-601 does not apply to the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector in accordance with this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 64, 2008 General Session

26-42-101. Title.

This chapter is known as "Civil Penalties for Tobacco Sales to Underage

Persons."

Enacted by Chapter 319, 1998 General Session

26-42-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Utah State Tax Commission.

(2) "Employee" means an employee of a licensee.

(3) "Enforcing agency" means the state Department of Health, or any local health department enforcing the provisions of this chapter.

(4) "Licensee" means a person licensed:

(a) under Section 59-14-201 to sell cigarettes at retail; or

(b) under Section 59-14-301 to sell tobacco products at retail.

(5) "License to sell tobacco" or "license" means a license issued:

(a) under Section 59-14-201 to sell cigarettes at retail; or

(b) under Section 59-14-301 to sell tobacco products at retail.

(6) "Tobacco" means cigarettes or tobacco products as defined in Section 59-14-102.

Enacted by Chapter 319, 1998 General Session

26-42-103. Violations and penalties -- Imposition by enforcing agency and tax commission.

(1) If, following an investigation or issuance of a citation or information under Section 77-39-101, an enforcing agency determines under Section 26-42-104 that a licensee or any employee has sold tobacco to a person younger than 19 years of age, as prohibited by Section 76-10-104, the enforcing agency may impose upon the licensee the following administrative penalties:

(a) upon the first violation, a penalty of not more than $300;

(b) upon a second violation at the same retail location, and within 12 months of the first violation, a penalty of not more than $750; and

(c) upon a third or subsequent violation at the same retail location and within 12 months of the first violation, a penalty of not more than $1,000.

(2) The enforcing agency shall notify the commission in writing of any order or order of default finding a violation of Subsection (1) which is a third or fourth violation.

(3) The commission, upon receipt of the written notification under Subsection (2), shall take action under Section 59-14-203.5 or 59-14-301.5 against the license to sell tobacco:

(a) by suspending the licensee's license to sell tobacco at that location for not more than 30 days, upon receipt of notification of a third violation under Subsection (1)(c); and

(b) by revoking the license to sell tobacco at that location held by the licensee, including any license under suspension, upon receipt of notification of a fourth violation under Subsection (1)(c).

(4) When the commission revokes a license under Subsection (3)(b), the commission may not issue to the licensee, or to the business entity using the license

that is revoked, a license under Section 59-14-202 or 59-14-301 to sell tobacco at the location for which the license was issued for one year after:

(a) the day on which the time for filing an appeal of the revocation ends; or

(b) if the revocation is appealed, the day on which the decision to uphold the revocation becomes final.

(5) This section does not prevent any bona fide purchaser of the business, who is not a sole proprietor, director, corporate officer, or partner or other holder of significant interest in the entity selling the business, from immediately applying for and obtaining a license to sell tobacco.

Amended by Chapter 96, 2011 General Session

26-42-104. Enforcement by state and local health departments.

The state Department of Health and the local health departments shall enforce this chapter under the procedures of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, as an informal adjudicative proceeding, including:

(1) notifying licensees of alleged violations of Section 26-42-103;

(2) conducting hearings;

(3) determining violations of this chapter; and

(4) imposing civil monetary administrative penalties.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-42-105. Hearing -- Evidence of criminal conviction.

(1) At a civil hearing conducted under Section 26-42-104, evidence of the final criminal conviction of a licensee or employee for violation of Section 76-10-104 at the same location and within the same time period as the location and time period alleged in the civil hearing for violation of Section 26-42-103 is prima facie evidence of a violation of Section 26-42-103.

(2) If the licensee has been convicted of violating Section 76-10-104 prior to a finding of a violation of Section 26-42-103, the licensee may not be assessed a monetary penalty under this chapter for the same offense for which the conviction was obtained.

Enacted by Chapter 319, 1998 General Session

26-42-106. Recognition of licensee's training program.

(1) In determining the amount of the monetary penalty to be imposed for an employee's violation of Section 26-42-103, the hearing officer shall reduce the penalty by at least 50% if he determines:

(a) the licensee has implemented a documented employee training program; and

(b) the employee has completed that training program within 30 days of commencing duties of selling tobacco products.

(2) (a) If the hearing officer determines under Subsection (1), regarding a first offense at a location, that the licensee has not implemented a documented training

program with a written curriculum for employees at that location regarding compliance with this chapter, the hearing officer may suspend all or a portion of the monetary penalty, contingent upon the licensee's initiating a training program for employees at that location within 30 days after the hearing date.

(b) If the hearing officer determines at a subsequent hearing that the licensee has not implemented the training program within the time period required under Subsection (2)(a), the suspended monetary penalty shall be promptly imposed, unless the licensee demonstrates good cause for granting an extension of time for implementation of the training program.

Enacted by Chapter 319, 1998 General Session

26-42-107. Allocation of civil penalties.

Civil monetary penalties collected under this chapter shall be allocated as follows:

(1) if a local health department conducts an adjudicative proceeding under Section 26-42-104, the penalty shall be paid to the treasurer of the county in which the violation was committed, and transferred to:

(a) the local health department if it conducts a civil hearing under Section 26-42-104 alone; or

(b) in equal portions to the local health department and the other agencies that participated in the hearing process;

(2) if the state Department of Health conducts a civil hearing under Section 26-42-104, the penalty shall be deposited in the state's General Fund, and may be appropriated by the Legislature to the state Department of Health for use in enforcement of this chapter; and

(3) if the civil penalty involves suspension or revocation of a license to sell tobacco under Section 59-14-203.5 or 59-14-301.5, half of the penalty shall be paid to the commission, and the other half shall be allocated under Subsection (1) or (2), as appropriate.

Enacted by Chapter 319, 1998 General Session

26-43-101. Title.

This chapter shall be known as the "Disclosure of Ingredients in Cigarette and Tobacco Products Act."

Enacted by Chapter 73, 1998 General Session

26-43-102. Gathering of information.

The department shall obtain annually publicly available information regarding cigarettes and tobacco products from other states and sources concerning:

(1) the presence of the following substances in detectable levels in a burned state and, if the cigarette or tobacco product is typically burned when consumed, in a burned state:

(a) ammonia or ammonia compounds;

(b) arsenic;
(c) cadmium;
(d) formaldehyde; and
(e) lead; and
(2) a nicotine yield rating for the cigarette or tobacco product for which a rating has been developed.

Enacted by Chapter 73, 1998 General Session

26-43-103. Disclosure of information.
Information obtained by the department under this chapter is a public record and may be disclosed in accordance with Section 63G-2-201 and disseminated generally by the department.

Amended by Chapter 382, 2008 General Session

26-45-101. Title.
This chapter is known as the "Genetic Testing Privacy Act."

Enacted by Chapter 120, 2002 General Session

26-45-102. Definitions.
As used in this chapter:
(1) "Blood relative" means a person's biologically related:
(a) parent;
(b) grandparent;
(c) child;
(d) grandchild;
(e) sibling;
(f) uncle;
(g) aunt;
(h) nephew;
(i) niece; or
(j) first cousin.
(2) "DNA" means deoxyribonucleic acid, ribonucleic acid, and chromosomes, which may be analyzed to detect heritable diseases or conditions, including the identification of carriers, predicting risk of disease, or establishing a clinical diagnosis.
(3) "DNA sample" means any human biological specimen from which DNA can be extracted, or DNA extracted from such specimen.
(4) (a) "Genetic analysis" or "genetic test" means the testing or analysis of an identifiable individual's DNA that results in information that is derived from the presence, absence, alteration, or mutation of an inherited gene or genes, or the presence or absence of a specific DNA marker or markers.
(b) "Genetic analysis" or "genetic test" does not mean:
(i) a routine physical examination;
(ii) a routine chemical, blood, or urine analysis;

(iii) a test to identify the presence of drugs or HIV infection; or

(iv) a test performed due to the presence of signs, symptoms, or other manifestations of a disease, illness, impairment, or other disorder.

(5) "Individual" means the person from whose body the DNA sample originated.

(6) "Person" means any person, organization, or entity other than the individual.

(7) (a) "Private genetic information" means any information about an identifiable individual that is derived from the presence, absence, alteration, or mutation of an inherited gene or genes, or the presence or absence of a specific DNA marker or markers, and which has been obtained:

(i) from a genetic test or analysis of the individual's DNA; or

(ii) from a genetic test or analysis of a person's DNA to whom the individual is a blood relative.

(b) "Private genetic information" does not include information that is derived from:

(i) a routine physical examination;

(ii) a routine chemical, blood, or urine analysis;

(iii) a test to identify the presence of drugs or HIV infection; or

(iv) a test performed due to the presence of signs, symptoms, or other manifestations of a disease, illness, impairment, or other disorder.

Enacted by Chapter 120, 2002 General Session

26-45-103. Restrictions on employers.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), an employer, as defined in Section 34A-2-103, may not in connection with a hiring, promotion, retention, or other related decision:

(a) access or otherwise take into consideration private genetic information about an individual;

(b) request or require an individual to consent to a release for the purpose of accessing private genetic information about the individual;

(c) request or require an individual or his blood relative to submit to a genetic test; and

(d) inquire into or otherwise take into consideration the fact that an individual or his blood relative has taken or refused to take a genetic test.

(2) (a) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), an employer may seek an order compelling the disclosure of private genetic information held by an individual or third party pursuant to Subsection (2)(b) in connection with:

(i) an employment-related judicial or administrative proceeding in which the individual has placed his health at issue; or

(ii) an employment-related decision in which the employer has a reasonable basis to believe that the individual's health condition poses a real and unjustifiable safety risk requiring the change or denial of an assignment.

(b) (i) An order compelling the disclosure of private genetic information pursuant to this Subsection (2) may only be entered upon a finding that:

(A) other ways of obtaining the private information are not available or would not be effective; and

(B) there is a compelling need for the private genetic information which substantially outweighs the potential harm to the privacy interests of the individual.

(ii) An order compelling the disclosure of private genetic information pursuant to this Subsection (2) shall:

(A) limit disclosure to those parts of the record containing information essential to fulfill the objective of the order;

(B) limit disclosure to those persons whose need for the information is the basis of the order; and

(C) include such other measures as may be necessary to limit disclosure for the protection of the individual.

Enacted by Chapter 120, 2002 General Session

26-45-104. Restrictions on health insurers.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), an insurer offering health care insurance as defined in Section 31A-1-301 may not in connection with the offer or renewal of an insurance product or in the determination of premiums, coverage, renewal, cancellation, or any other underwriting decision that pertains directly to the individual or any group of which the individual is a member that purchases insurance jointly:

(a) access or otherwise take into consideration private genetic information about an asymptomatic individual;

(b) request or require an asymptomatic individual to consent to a release for the purpose of accessing private genetic information about the individual;

(c) request or require an asymptomatic individual or his blood relative to submit to a genetic test; and

(d) inquire into or otherwise take into consideration the fact that an asymptomatic individual or his blood relative has taken or refused to take a genetic test.

(2) An insurer offering health care insurance:

(a) may request information regarding the necessity of a genetic test, but not the results of the test, if a claim for payment for the test has been made against an individual's health insurance policy;

(b) may request that portion of private genetic information that is necessary to determine the insurer's obligation to pay for health care services where:

(i) the primary basis for rendering such services to an individual is the result of a genetic test; and

(ii) a claim for payment for such services has been made against the individual's health insurance policy;

(c) may only store information obtained under this Subsection (2) in accordance with the provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996; and

(d) may only use or otherwise disclose the information obtained under this Subsection (2) in connection with a proceeding to determine the obligation of an insurer to pay for a genetic test or health care services, provided that, in accordance with the provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, the insurer makes a reasonable effort to limit disclosure to the minimum necessary to carry out the

purposes of the disclosure.

(3) (a) An insurer may, to the extent permitted by Subsection (2), seek an order compelling the disclosure of private genetic information held by an individual or third party.

(b) An order authorizing the disclosure of private genetic information pursuant to this Subsection (2) shall:

(i) limit disclosure to those parts of the record containing information essential to fulfill the objectives of the order;

(ii) limit disclosure to those persons whose need for the information is the basis for the order; and

(iii) include such other measures as may be necessary to limit disclosure for the protection of the individual.

(4) Nothing in this section may be construed as restricting the ability of an insurer to use information other than private genetic information to take into account the health status of an individual, group, or population in determining premiums or making other underwriting decisions.

(5) Nothing in this section may be construed as requiring an insurer to pay for genetic testing.

(6) Information maintained by an insurer about an individual under this section may be redisclosed:

(a) to protect the interests of the insurer in detecting, prosecuting, or taking legal action against criminal activity, fraud, material misrepresentations, and material omissions;

(b) to enable business decisions to be made about the purchase, transfer, merger, reinsurance, or sale of all or part of the insurer's business; and

(c) to the commissioner of insurance upon formal request.

Enacted by Chapter 120, 2002 General Session

26-45-105. Private right of action.

(1) An individual whose legal rights arising under this chapter have been violated after June 30, 2003, may recover damages and be granted equitable relief in a civil action.

(2) Any insurance company or employer who violates the legal rights of an individual arising from this chapter shall be liable to the individual for each separate violation in an amount equal to:

(a) actual damages sustained as a result of the violation;

(b) (i) $100,000 if the violation is the result of an intentional and wilful act; or

(ii) punitive damages if the violation is the result of a malicious act; and

(c) reasonable attorneys' fees.

Enacted by Chapter 120, 2002 General Session

26-45-106. Enforcement.

(1) Whenever the attorney general has reason to believe that any person is using or is about to use any method, act, or practice in violation of the provisions of this

chapter, and that proceedings would be in the public interest, the attorney general may bring an action against the person to restrain or enjoin the use of such method, act, or practice.

(2) In addition to restraining or enjoining the use of a method, act, or practice, the court may, after June 30, 2003, require the payment of:

(a) a civil fine of not more than $25,000 for each separate intentional violation; and

(b) reasonable costs of investigation and litigation, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

Enacted by Chapter 120, 2002 General Session

26-46-101. Definitions.

(1) "Geriatric professional" means a person who:

(a) is a licensed:

(i) health care professional;

(ii) social worker;

(iii) occupational therapist;

(iv) pharmacist;

(v) physical therapist; or

(vi) psychologist; and

(b) is determined by the department to have adequate advanced training in geriatrics to prepare the person to provide specialized geriatric care within the scope of the person's profession.

(2) "Health care professional" means:

(a) a licensed:

(i) physician;

(ii) physician assistant;

(iii) nurse;

(iv) dentist; or

(v) mental health therapist; or

(b) another licensed health care professional designated by the department by rule.

(3) "Underserved area" means an area designated by the department as underserved by health care professionals, based upon the results of a needs assessment developed by the department in consultation with the Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program Advisory Committee created under Section 26-46-103.

Amended by Chapter 97, 2009 General Session

26-46-102. Creation of program -- Duties of department.

(1) There is created within the department the Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program to provide, within funding appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose:

(a) professional education scholarships and loan repayment assistance to

health care professionals who locate or continue to practice in underserved areas; and

(b) loan repayment assistance to geriatric professionals who locate or continue to practice in underserved areas.

(2) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the department shall make rules governing the administration of the program, including rules that address:

(a) application procedures;

(b) eligibility criteria;

(c) selection criteria;

(d) service conditions, which at a minimum shall include professional service in an underserved area for a minimum period of time by any person receiving a scholarship or loan repayment assistance;

(e) penalties for failure to comply with service conditions or other terms of a scholarship or loan repayment contract;

(f) criteria for modifying or waiving service conditions or penalties in case of extreme hardship or other good cause; and

(g) administration of contracts entered into before the effective date of this act, between the department and scholarship or loan repayment recipients, as authorized by law.

(3) The department shall seek and consider the recommendations of the Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program Advisory Committee created under Section 26-46-103 as it develops and modifies rules to administer the program.

(4) Funding for the program:

(a) shall be a line item within the appropriations act;

(b) shall be nonlapsing unless designated otherwise by the Legislature; and

(c) may be used to cover administrative costs of the program, including reimbursement expenses of the Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program Advisory Committee created under Section 26-46-103.

(5) Loan repayments and payments resulting from breach of contract are dedicated credits to the program.

(6) The department shall prepare an annual report on the revenues, expenditures, and outcomes of the program.

Amended by Chapter 97, 2009 General Session

26-46-103. Advisory committee -- Membership -- Compensation -- Duties.

(1) There is created the Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program Advisory Committee consisting of the following 13 members appointed by the executive director, eight of whom shall be residents of rural communities:

(a) one rural representative of Utah Hospitals and Health Systems, nominated by the association;

(b) two rural representatives of the Utah Medical Association, nominated by the association;

(c) one representative of the Utah Academy of Physician Assistants, nominated by the association;

(d) one representative of the Association for Utah Community Health, nominated

by the association;

(e) one representative of the Utah Dental Association, nominated by the association;

(f) one representative of mental health therapists, selected from nominees submitted by mental health therapist professional associations;

(g) one representative of the Association of Local Health Officers, nominated by the association;

(h) one representative of the low-income advocacy community, nominated by the Utah Human Services Coalition;

(i) one nursing program faculty member, nominated by the Statewide Deans and Directors Committee;

(j) one administrator of a long-term care facility, nominated by the Utah Health Care Association;

(k) one nursing administrator, nominated by the Utah Nurses Association; and

(l) one geriatric professional who is:

(i) determined by the department to have adequate advanced training in geriatrics to prepare the person to provide specialized geriatric care within the scope of the person's profession; and

(ii) nominated by a professional association for the profession of which the person is a member.

(2) An appointment to the committee shall be for a four-year term unless the member is appointed to complete an unexpired term. The executive director may also adjust the length of term at the time of appointment or reappointment so that approximately 1/2 the committee is appointed every two years. The executive director shall annually appoint a committee chair from among the members of the committee.

(3) The committee shall meet at the call of the chair, at least three members of the committee, or the executive director, but no less frequently than once each calendar year.

(4) A majority of the members of the committee constitutes a quorum. The action of a majority of a quorum constitutes the action of the committee.

(5) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

(a) Section 63A-3-106;

(b) Section 63A-3-107; and

(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

(6) The committee shall:

(a) make recommendations to the department for the development and modification of rules to administer the Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program; and

(b) advise the department on the development of a needs assessment tool for identifying underserved areas.

(7) As funding permits, the department shall provide staff and other administrative support to the committee.

Amended by Chapter 286, 2010 General Session

26-46-104. Continuity between programs.

(1) A contract entered into between the department and a scholarship or loan repayment recipient under Title 26, Chapter 9, Part 2, Physicians and Physician Assistants Grant and Scholarship Program, Title 26, Chapter 9d, Nurse Education Financial Assistance, or Title 26,
Chapter 9e, Special Population Health Care Provider Financial Assistance and Retention Act, prior to the effective date of this act, remains valid on and after the effective date of this act, except that any provisions that cannot be administered due to the repeal of these programs shall be administered pursuant to Subsection 26-46-102(2)(g).

(2) Applications in process on the effective date of this act, for scholarship or loan repayment under Title 26, Chapter 9, Part 2, Physicians and Physician Assistants Grant and Scholarship Program, Title 26, Chapter 9d, Nurse Education Financial Assistance, or Title 26, Chapter 9e, Special Population Health Care Provider Financial Assistance and Retention Act, shall be evaluated for acceptance under the provisions of this chapter.

Enacted by Chapter 307, 2002 General Session

26-47-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Health Care Assistance Act."

Enacted by Chapter 273, 2005 General Session

26-47-102. Prescription Drug Assistance Program.

(1) No later than October 1, 2003, the department shall implement a Prescription Drug Assistance Program. The program shall assist persons seeking information about how to obtain prescription drugs at a reduced price or no cost. The program shall:

(a) collect eligibility and enrollment information about programs that make prescription drugs available to consumers at a reduced price or no cost;

(b) provide information collected under Subsection (1)(a) to consumers upon request via a toll-free phone line, the Internet, and mail;

(c) inform pharmacists and other health care providers of the Prescription Drug Assistance Program; and

(d) assist consumers in completing applications to participate in programs identified under Subsection (1)(a).

(2) Any pharmaceutical manufacturer, distributor, or wholesaler operating in the state shall:

(a) notify the department of any program operated by it to provide prescription drugs to consumers at a reduced price or no cost; and

(b) provide the department with information about eligibility, enrollment, and benefits.

(3) Pharmacies, as defined in Title 58, Chapter 17b, Pharmacy Practice Act, shall notify their patients of the Prescription Drug Assistance Program. This notification shall include displaying the program's toll-free number, and may include distributing a

brochure or oral communication.

(4) The department may accept grants, gifts, and donations of money or property for use by the Prescription Drug Assistance Program.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-47-103. Department to award grants for assistance to persons with bleeding disorders.

(1) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Hemophilia services" means a program for medical care, including the costs of blood transfusions, and the use of blood derivatives and blood clotting factors.

(b) "Person with a bleeding disorder" means a person:

(i) who is medically diagnosed with hemophilia or a bleeding disorder;

(ii) who is not eligible for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program; and

(iii) who has either:

(A) insurance coverage that excludes coverage for hemophilia services;

(B) exceeded the person's insurance plan's annual maximum benefits;

(C) exceeded the person's annual or lifetime maximum benefits payable under Title 31A, Chapter 29, Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Act; or

(D) insurance coverage available under either private health insurance, Title 31A, Chapter 29, Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Act, Utah mini COBRA coverage under Section 31A-22-722, or federal COBRA coverage, but the premiums for that coverage are greater than a percentage of the person's annual adjusted gross income as established by the department by administrative rule.

(2) (a) Within appropriations specified by the Legislature for this purpose, the department shall make grants to public and nonprofit entities who assist persons with bleeding disorders with the cost of obtaining hemophilia services or the cost of insurance premiums for coverage of hemophilia services.

(b) Applicants for grants under this section:

(i) shall be submitted to the department in writing; and

(ii) shall comply with Subsection (3).

(3) Applications for grants under this section shall include:

(a) a statement of specific, measurable objectives, and the methods to be used to assess the achievement of those objectives;

(b) a description of the personnel responsible for carrying out the activities of the grant along with a statement justifying the use of any grant funds for the personnel;

(c) letters and other forms of evidence showing that efforts have been made to secure financial and professional assistance and support for the services to be provided under the grant;

(d) a list of services to be provided by the applicant;

(e) the schedule of fees to be charged by the applicant; and

(f) other provisions as determined by the department.

(4) The department may accept grants, gifts, and donations of money or property for use by the grant program.

(5) The department shall establish rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter

3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, governing the application form, process, and criteria it will use in awarding grants under this section.

Amended by Chapter 167, 2013 General Session

26-49-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act."

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Department of Health" shall have the meaning provided for in Section 26-1-4.

(2) "Disaster relief organization" means an entity that:

(a) provides emergency or disaster relief services that include health or veterinary services provided by volunteer health practitioners;

(b) is designated or recognized as a provider of the services described in Subsection (2)(a) under a disaster response and recovery plan adopted by:

(i) an agency of the federal government;

(ii) the state Department of Health; or

(iii) a local health department; and

(c) regularly plans and conducts its activities in coordination with:

(i) an agency of the federal government;

(ii) the Department of Health; or

(iii) a local health department.

(3) "Emergency" means a "state of emergency" as defined in Section 53-2a-203.

(4) "Emergency declaration" means a declaration made in accordance with Section 53-2a-206 or 53-2a-208.

(5) "Emergency Management Assistance Compact" means the interstate compact approved by Congress by Public Law No. 104-321, 110 Stat. 3877 and adopted by Utah in Title 53, Chapter 2a, Part 4, Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

(6) "Entity" means a person other than an individual.

(7) "Health facility" means an entity licensed under the laws of this or another state to provide health or veterinary services.

(8) "Health practitioner" means an individual licensed under Utah law or another state to provide health or veterinary services.

(9) "Health services" means the provision of treatment, care, advice, guidance, other services, or supplies related to the health or death of individuals or human populations, to the extent necessary to respond to an emergency, including:

(a) the following, concerning the physical or mental condition or functional status of an individual or affecting the structure or function of the body:

(i) preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitative, maintenance, or palliative care; or

(ii) counseling, assessment, procedures, or other services;

(b) selling or dispensing a drug, a device, equipment, or another item to an individual in accordance with a prescription; and

(c) funeral, cremation, cemetery, or other mortuary services.

(10) "Host entity":

(a) means an entity operating in Utah that:

(i) uses volunteer health practitioners to respond to an emergency; and

(ii) is responsible during an emergency, for actually delivering health services to individuals or human populations, or veterinary services to animals or animal populations; and

(b) may include disaster relief organizations, hospitals, clinics, emergency shelters, health care provider offices, or any other place where volunteer health practitioners may provide health or veterinary services.

(11) (a) "License" means authorization by a state to engage in health or veterinary services that are unlawful without authorization.

(b) "License" includes authorization under this title to an individual to provide health or veterinary services based upon a national or state certification issued by a public or private entity.

(12) "Local health department" shall have the meaning provided for in Subsection 26A-1-102(5).

(13) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or any other legal or commercial entity.

(14) "Scope of practice" means the extent of the authorization to provide health or veterinary services granted to a health practitioner by a license issued to the practitioner in the state in which the principal part of the practitioner's services are rendered, including any conditions imposed by the licensing authority.

(15) "State" means:

(a) a state of the United States;

(b) the District of Columbia;

(c) Puerto Rico;

(d) the United States Virgin Islands; or

(e) any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(16) "Veterinary services" shall have the meaning provided for in Subsection 58-28-102(11).

(17) (a) "Volunteer health practitioner" means a health practitioner who provides health or veterinary services, whether or not the practitioner receives compensation for those services.

(b) "Volunteer health practitioner" does not include a practitioner who receives compensation under a preexisting employment relationship with a host entity or affiliate that requires the practitioner to provide health services in Utah, unless the practitioner is:

(i) not a Utah resident; and

(ii) employed by a disaster relief organization providing services in Utah while an

emergency declaration is in effect.

Amended by Chapter 295, 2013 General Session

26-49-103. Applicability to volunteer health practitioners.

This chapter applies to volunteer health practitioners who:

(1) are registered with a registration system that complies with Section 26-49-202; and

(2) provide health or veterinary services in Utah for a host entity while an emergency declaration is in effect.

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-201. Regulation of services during emergency.

(1) While an emergency declaration is in effect, the Department of Health or a local health department may limit, restrict, or otherwise regulate:

(a) the duration of practice by volunteer health practitioners;

(b) the geographical areas in which volunteer health practitioners may practice;

(c) the types of volunteer health practitioners who may practice; and

(d) any other matters necessary to coordinate effectively the provision of health or veterinary services during the emergency.

(2) An order issued under Subsection (1) takes effect immediately, without prior notice or comment, and is not a rule within the meaning of Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, or an adjudication within the meaning of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

(3) A host entity that uses volunteer health practitioners to provide health or veterinary services in Utah shall:

(a) to the extent practicable and in order to provide for the efficient and effective use of volunteer health practitioners, consult and coordinate its activities with:

(i) the Department of Health;

(ii) local health departments; or

(iii) the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food;

(b) comply with all state and federal laws relating to the management of emergency health or veterinary services.

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-202. Volunteer health practitioner registration systems.

(1) To qualify as a volunteer health practitioner registration system, the registration system shall:

(a) accept applications for the registration of volunteer health practitioners before or during an emergency;

(b) include information about the licensure and good standing of health practitioners that is accessible by authorized persons;

(c) be capable of confirming the accuracy of information concerning whether a health practitioner is licensed and in good standing before health services or veterinary

services are provided under this chapter; and

(d) meet one of the following conditions:

(i) be an emergency system for advance registration of volunteer health practitioners established by a state and funded through the United States Department of Health and Human Services under Section 319I of the Public Health Services Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 247d-7b, as amended;

(ii) be a local unit consisting of trained and equipped emergency response, public health, and medical personnel formed under Section 2801 of the Public Health Services Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 300hh as amended;

(iii) be operated by a:

(A) disaster relief organization;

(B) licensing board;

(C) national or regional association of licensing boards or health practitioners;

(D) health facility that provides comprehensive inpatient and outpatient healthcare services, including tertiary care; or

(E) governmental entity; or

(iv) be designated by the Department of Health as a registration system for purposes of this chapter.

(2) (a) Subject to Subsection (2)(b), while an emergency declaration is in effect, the Department of Health, a person authorized to act on behalf of the Department of Health, or a host entity shall confirm whether a volunteer health practitioner in Utah is registered with a registration system that complies with Subsection (1).

(b) The confirmation authorized under this Subsection (2) is limited to obtaining the identity of the practitioner from the system and determining whether the system indicates that the practitioner is licensed and in good standing.

(3) Upon request of a person authorized under Subsection (2), or a similarly authorized person in another state, a registration system located in Utah shall notify the person of the identity of a volunteer health practitioner and whether or not the volunteer health practitioner is licensed and in good standing.

(4) A host entity is not required to use the services of a volunteer health practitioner even if the volunteer health practitioner is registered with a registration system that indicates that the practitioner is licensed and in good standing.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-49-203. Recognition of volunteer health practitioners licensed in other states.

(1) While an emergency declaration is in effect, a volunteer health practitioner registered with a registration system that complies with Section 26-49-202 and licensed and in good standing in the state upon which the practitioner's registration is based:

(a) may practice in Utah to the extent authorized by this chapter as if the practitioner were licensed in Utah; and

(b) is exempt from:

(i) licensure in Utah; or

(ii) operating under modified scope of practice provisions in accordance with Subsections 58-1-307(4) and (5).

(2) A volunteer health practitioner qualified under Subsection (1) is not entitled to the protections of this chapter if the practitioner is licensed in more than one state and any license of the practitioner:

(a) is suspended, revoked, or subject to an agency order limiting or restricting practice privileges; or

(b) has been voluntarily terminated under threat of sanction.

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-204. No effect on credentialing and privileging.

(1) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Credentialing" means obtaining, verifying, and assessing the qualifications of a health practitioner to provide treatment, care, or services.

(b) "Privileging" means the authorizing by an appropriate authority of a health practitioner to provide specific treatment, care, or services at a health facility subject to limits based on factors that include license, education, training, experience, competence, health status, and specialized skill.

(2) This chapter does not affect credentialing or privileging standards of a health facility, and does not preclude a health facility from waiving or modifying those standards while an emergency declaration is in effect.

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-205. Provision of volunteer health or veterinary services -- Administrative sanctions -- Authority of Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing.

(1) Subject to Subsections (2) and (3), a volunteer health practitioner shall comply with the scope of practice for a similarly licensed practitioner established by the licensing provisions, practice acts, or other Utah laws.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (3), this chapter does not authorize a volunteer health practitioner to provide services that are outside the volunteer health practitioner's scope of practice, even if a similarly licensed practitioner in Utah would be permitted to provide the services.

(3) (a) In accordance with this section and Section 58-1-405, the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing may issue an order modifying or restricting the health or veterinary services that volunteer health practitioners may provide pursuant to this chapter.

(b) An order under this subsection takes effect immediately, without prior notice or comment, and is not a rule within the meaning of Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, or a directive within the meaning of Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act.

(4) A host entity may restrict the health or veterinary services that a volunteer health practitioner may provide under this chapter.

(5) (a) A volunteer health practitioner does not engage in unauthorized practice unless the volunteer health practitioner has reason to know of any limitation, modification, or restriction under this chapter, Title 58, Division of Occupational and

Professional Licensing Act, or that a similarly licensed practitioner in Utah would not be permitted to provide the services.

(b) A volunteer health practitioner has reason to know of a limitation, modification, or restriction, or that a similarly licensed practitioner in Utah would not be permitted to provide a service, if:

(i) the volunteer health practitioner knows the limitation, modification, or restriction exists or that a similarly licensed practitioner in Utah would not be permitted to provide the service; or

(ii) from all the facts and circumstances known to the volunteer health practitioner at the relevant time, a reasonable person would conclude that:

(A) the limitation, modification, or restriction exists; or

(B) a similarly licensed practitioner in Utah would not be permitted to provide the service.

(6) In addition to the authority granted by law of Utah other than this chapter to regulate the conduct of volunteer health practitioners, the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing Act or other disciplinary authority in Utah:

(a) may impose administrative sanctions upon a volunteer health practitioner licensed in Utah for conduct outside of Utah in response to an out-of-state emergency;

(b) may impose administrative sanctions upon a volunteer health practitioner not licensed in Utah for conduct in Utah in response to an in-state emergency; and

(c) shall report any administrative sanctions imposed upon a volunteer health practitioner licensed in another state to the appropriate licensing board or other disciplinary authority in any other state in which the volunteer health practitioner is known to be licensed.

(7) In determining whether or not to impose administrative sanctions under Subsection (6), the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing Act or other disciplinary authority shall consider the circumstances in which the conduct took place, including:

(a) any exigent circumstances; and

(b) the volunteer health practitioner's scope of practice, education, training, experience, and specialized skill.

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-301. Relation to other laws.

(1) (a) This chapter does not limit rights, privileges, or immunities provided to volunteer health practitioners by laws other than this chapter.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (2), this chapter does not affect requirements for the use of health practitioners pursuant to Title 53, Chapter 2a, Part 4, Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

(2) An authorized representative of a party state may incorporate volunteer health practitioners into the emergency forces of Utah even if those volunteer health practitioners are not officers or employees of Utah, a political subdivision of Utah, or a municipality or other local government within Utah.

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-401. Regulatory authority.

(1) The Department of Health shall make rules by following the procedures and requirements of Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(2) Before adopting rules under Subsection (1), the Department of Health shall consult and consider:

(a) the recommendations of the entity established to coordinate the implementation of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact; and

(b) rules adopted by similarly empowered agencies in other states in order to promote uniformity of application of this chapter and make the emergency response systems in the various states reasonably compatible.

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-501. Limitations on civil liability for volunteer health practitioners.

Volunteer health practitioners who provide health or veterinary services pursuant to this chapter are immune from liability and civil damages as set forth in Section 58-13-2.

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-601. Workers' compensation coverage.

(1) For purposes of this section, "injury" means a physical or mental injury or disease for which an employee of Utah who is injured or contracts the disease in the course of the employee's employment would be entitled to benefits under Title 34A, Chapter 2, Workers' Compensation Act.

(2) A volunteer health practitioner is considered a state employee for purposes of receiving workers' compensation medical benefits under Title 34A, Chapter 2, Workers' Compensation Act, and Chapter 3, Utah Occupational Disease Act.

(3) The state shall provide workers' compensation benefits for a volunteer health practitioner under:

(a) Title 34A, Chapter 2, Workers' Compensation Act; and

(b) Title 34A, Chapter 3, Utah Occupational Disease Act.

(4) (a) In accordance with Section 34A-2-105, the workers' compensation benefits described in Subsection (3) are the exclusive remedy against the state or an officer, agent, or employee of the state, for all injuries and occupational diseases resulting from the volunteer health practitioner's services for the state.

(b) For purposes of Subsection (4)(a), the state is considered the employer of the volunteer health practitioner.

(5) To compute the workers' compensation benefits for a volunteer health practitioner described in Subsection (3), the average weekly wage of the volunteer health practitioner shall be the state's average weekly wage at the time of the emergency that is the basis for the volunteer health practitioner's workers' compensation claim.

(6) (a) The Labor Commission shall:

(i) adopt rules, enter into agreements with other states, or take other measures to facilitate the receipt of benefits for injury or death by volunteer health practitioners

who reside in other states; and

(ii) consult with and consider the practices for filing, processing, and paying claims by agencies with similar authority in other states to promote uniformity of application of this chapter with other states that enact similar legislation.

(b) The Labor Commission may waive or modify requirements for filing, processing, and paying claims that unreasonably burden the volunteer health practitioners.

Enacted by Chapter 242, 2008 General Session

26-49-701. Uniformity of application and construction.

In applying and construing this chapter, consideration shall be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

Amended by Chapter 297, 2011 General Session

26-50-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Traumatic Brain Injury Fund."

Enacted by Chapter 325, 2008 General Session

26-50-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Committee" means the advisory committee created by the executive director pursuant to Section 26-50-202.

(2) "Fund" means the Traumatic Brain Injury Fund created in Section 26-50-201.

Enacted by Chapter 325, 2008 General Session

26-50-201. Traumatic Brain Injury Fund.

(1) There is created an expendable special revenue fund entitled the Traumatic Brain Injury Fund.

(2) The fund shall consist of:

(a) gifts, grants, donations, or any other conveyance of money that may be made to the fund from private sources; and

(b) additional amounts as appropriated by the Legislature.

(3) The fund shall be administered by the executive director.

(4) Fund money may be used to:

(a) educate the general public and professionals regarding understanding, treatment, and prevention of traumatic brain injury;

(b) provide access to evaluations and coordinate short-term care to assist an individual in identifying services or support needs, resources, and benefits for which the individual may be eligible;

(c) develop and support an information and referral system for persons with a traumatic brain injury and their families; and

(d) provide grants to persons or organizations to provide the services described in Subsections (4)(a), (b), and (c).

(5) Not less that 50% of the fund shall be used each fiscal year to directly assist individuals who meet the qualifications described in Subsection (6).

(6) An individual who receives services either paid for from the fund, or through an organization under contract with the fund, shall:

(a) be a resident of Utah;

(b) have been diagnosed by a qualified professional as having a traumatic brain injury which results in impairment of cognitive or physical function; and

(c) have a need that can be met within the requirements of this chapter.

(7) The fund may not duplicate any services or support mechanisms being provided to an individual by any other government or private agency.

(8) All actual and necessary operating expenses for the committee and staff shall be paid by the fund.

(9) The fund may not be used for medical treatment, long-term care, or acute care.

Amended by Chapter 400, 2013 General Session

26-50-202. Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Committee -- Membership -- Time limit.

(1) On or after July 1 of each year, the executive director may create a Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Committee of not more than nine members.

(2) The committee shall be composed of members of the community who are familiar with traumatic brain injury, its causes, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and support services, including:

(a) persons with a traumatic brain injury;

(b) family members of a person with a traumatic brain injury;

(c) representatives of an association which advocates for persons with traumatic brain injuries;

(d) specialists in a profession that works with brain injury patients; and

(e) department representatives.

(3) The department shall provide staff support to the committee.

(4) (a) If a vacancy occurs in the committee membership for any reason, a replacement may be appointed for the unexpired term.

(b) The committee shall elect a chairperson from the membership.

(c) A majority of the committee constitutes a quorum at any meeting, and, if a quorum exists, the action of the majority of members present shall be the action of the committee.

(d) The committee may adopt bylaws governing the committee's activities.

(e) A committee member may be removed by the executive director:

(i) if the member is unable or unwilling to carry out the member's assigned responsibilities; or

(ii) for good cause.

(5) The committee shall comply with the procedures and requirements of:

(a) Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and

(b) Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act.
(6) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but, at the executive director's discretion, may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
(a) Section 63A-3-106;
(b) Section 63A-3-107; and
(c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
(7) Not later than November 30 of each year the committee shall provide a written report summarizing the activities of the committee to:
(a) the executive director of the department;
(b) the Health and Human Services Interim Committee; and
(c) the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee.
(8) The committee shall cease to exist on December 31 of each year, unless the executive director determines it necessary to continue.

Amended by Chapter 242, 2012 General Session

26-51-101. Title.
This chapter is known as the "Methamphetamine Decontamination Act."

Enacted by Chapter 38, 2008 General Session

26-51-201. Scientific standards for methamphetamine decontamination.
(1) The department shall make rules adopting scientifically-based standards for methamphetamine decontamination.
(2) A local health department, as defined in Title 26A, Local Health Authorities, shall follow rules made by the department under Subsection (1) in administering Title 19, Chapter 6, Part 9, Illegal Drug Operations Site Reporting and Decontamination Act.

Enacted by Chapter 38, 2008 General Session

26-51-202. Public education concerning methamphetamine contamination.
The department shall conduct a public education campaign to inform the public about potential health risks of methamphetamine contamination.

Enacted by Chapter 38, 2008 General Session

26-52-101. Title.
This chapter is known as the "Autism Treatment Account."

Enacted by Chapter 69, 2010 General Session

26-52-102. Definitions.
As used in this chapter:
(1) "Account" means the Autism Treatment Account created in Section

26-52-201.

(2) "Applied behavior analysis" means the design, implementation, and evaluation of environmental modifications using behavioral stimuli and consequences to produce socially significant improvement in human behavior, including the use of direct observation, measurement, and functional analysis of the relationship between environment and behavior that are:

(a) necessary to develop, maintain, or restore, to the maximum extent practicable, the functioning of an individual; and

(b) provided or supervised by a:

(i) board certified behavior analyst; or

(ii) a licensed psychologist with equivalent university training and supervised experience who is working toward board certification in applied behavior analysis.

(3) "Autism spectrum disorder" means a pervasive developmental disorder as defined by the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual on Mental Disorders, including:

(a) autistic disorder;

(b) asperger's disorder; and

(c) pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified.

(4) "Committee" means the Autism Treatment Account Advisory Committee created under Section 26-52-202.

Amended by Chapter 402, 2012 General Session

26-52-201. Autism Treatment Account -- Medical loss ratio calculation -- Use of account.

(1) There is created within the General Fund a restricted account known as the Autism Treatment Account.

(2) (a) The account shall consist of:

(i) gifts, grants, devises, donations, and bequests of real property, personal property, or services, from any source, or any other conveyance that may be made to the account from private sources;

(ii) interest and other earnings derived from the account money; and

(iii) any additional amounts as appropriated by the Legislature.

(b) (i) For purposes of this subsection, the Affordable Care Act is as defined in Section 31A-2-212.

(ii) If an insurer contributes to the Autism Treatment Account, for purposes of calculating an insurer's medical loss ratio under the Affordable Care Act, the insurance commissioner shall consider the contribution to the Autism Treatment Account as a claims payment by the insurer.

(3) (a) Except as provided under Subsection (3)(b), the executive director of the department shall be responsible for administering the account.

(b) The committee shall be responsible for the following actions in relation to the account, consistent with the requirements of this title:

(i) prioritizing and allocating uses for account money, as permitted under Subsection (4);

(ii) determining which providers of services for the treatment of autism spectrum

disorder qualify for disbursements from the account for services rendered; and

(iii) authorization of all other distributions from the account, except that disbursements for expenses authorized under Subsections (6) and (7) shall also require the approval of the executive director.

(4) Account money may be used to:

(a) assist with the cost of evaluating and treating a child between the age of two and six years with an autism spectrum disorder; and

(b) provide a child between the age of two and six years with an autism spectrum disorder with treatments that utilize applied behavior analysis and other proven effective treatments included under Subsection 26-52-202(4)(b)(ii).

(5) An individual who receives services that are paid for from the account shall:

(a) be a resident of Utah;

(b) have been diagnosed by a qualified professional as having an autism spectrum disorder;

(c) be between the age of two and six years; and

(d) have a need that can be met within the requirements of this chapter.

(6) All actual and necessary operating expenses for the committee and staff shall be paid by the account.

(7) No more than 9% of the account money may be used for administrative or other expenses of the Department of Health.

(8) All interest and other earnings derived from the account money shall be deposited into the account.

(9) The state treasurer shall invest the money in the account under Title 51, Chapter 7, State Money Management Act.

Amended by Chapter 402, 2012 General Session

26-52-202. Autism Treatment Account Advisory Committee -- Membership -- Time limit.

(1) (a) There is created an Autism Treatment Account Advisory Committee consisting of six members appointed by the governor to two-year terms of office as follows:

(i) one person holding a doctorate degree who has experience in treating persons with an autism spectrum disorder;

(ii) one person who is a board certified behavior analyst;

(iii) one person who is a physician licensed under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice Act, or Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, who has completed a residency program in pediatrics;

(iv) one person who is employed in the Department of Health; and

(v) two persons from the community who are familiar with autism spectrum disorders and their effects, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and support needs, including:

(A) family members of a person with an autism spectrum disorder;

(B) representatives of an association which advocates for persons with an autism spectrum disorder; and

(C) specialists or professionals who work with persons with autism spectrum

disorders.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (1)(a), the governor shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of committee members are staggered so that approximately half of the committee is appointed every year.

(c) If a vacancy occurs in the committee membership for any reason, a replacement may be appointed for the unexpired term.

(2) The department shall provide staff support to the committee.

(3) (a) The committee shall elect a chair from the membership on an annual basis.

(b) A majority of the committee constitutes a quorum at any meeting, and, if a quorum exists, the action of the majority of members present shall be the action of the committee.

(c) The executive director may remove a committee member:

(i) if the member is unable or unwilling to carry out the member's assigned responsibilities; or

(ii) for good cause.

(4) The committee may, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, make rules governing the committee's activities, which rules shall:

(a) comply with the requirements of this title; and

(b) include:

(i) qualification criteria and procedures for selecting children who may qualify for assistance from the account;

(ii) qualifications, criteria, and procedures for evaluating the services and providers to include in the program, which shall include at least:

(A) applied behavior analysis provided by or supervised by a board certified behavior analyst or a licensed psychologist with equivalent university training and supervised experience;

(B) collaboration with existing telehealth networks to reach children in rural and under-served areas of the state; and

(C) methods to engage family members in the treatment process; and

(iii) provisions to address and avoid conflicts of interest that may arise in relation to the committee's work.

(5) The committee shall meet as necessary to carry out its duties and shall meet upon a call of the committee chair or a call of a majority of the committee members.

(6) The committee shall comply with the procedures and requirements of:

(a) Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and

(b) Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act.

(7) Committee members shall receive no compensation or per diem allowance for their services.

(8) (a) Not later than November 30 of each year, the committee shall provide a written report summarizing the activities of the committee to:

(i) the executive director of the department;

(ii) the Legislature's Health and Human Services Interim Committee; and

(iii) the Legislature's Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee.

(b) The report under Subsection (8)(a) shall include:
(i) the number of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder who are receiving services under this chapter;
(ii) the types of services provided to children under this chapter; and
(iii) results of any evaluations on the effectiveness of treatments and services provided under this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 242, 2012 General Session
Amended by Chapter 402, 2012 General Session

26-52-203. Administration of services for eligible individuals.
(1) (a) The department shall establish a mechanism to:
(i) identify the children who are eligible to receive services from the account in accordance with the standards for eligibility established in rules adopted by the committee under Subsection 26-52-202(4); and
(ii) review and pay for services provided to a child under this chapter.
(b) The department may contract with another state agency or a private entity to assist with the mechanism to identify eligible children, provide for services, and pay for services.
(2) The department, or the entity selected to assist the department under Subsection (1) may negotiate with providers of the services that are eligible under this chapter to maximize efficiencies and quality of services to children.

Enacted by Chapter 402, 2012 General Session

26-53-101. Title.
This chapter is known as the "Protection of Athletes With Head Injuries Act."

Enacted by Chapter 97, 2011 General Session

26-53-102. Definitions.
As used in this chapter:
(1) "Agent" means a coach, teacher, employee, representative, or volunteer.
(2) (a) "Amateur sports organization" means, except as provided in Subsection (2)(b):
(i) a sports team;
(ii) a public or private school;
(iii) a public or private sports league;
(iv) a public or private sports camp; or
(v) any other public or private organization that organizes, manages, or sponsors a sporting event for its members, enrollees, or attendees.
(b) "Amateur sports organization" does not include a professional:
(i) team;
(ii) league; or
(iii) sporting event.
(3) "Child" means an individual who is under the age of 18.

(4) "Qualified health care provider" means a health care provider who:
(a) is licensed under Title 58, Occupations and Professions; and
(b) may evaluate and manage a concussion within the health care provider's scope of practice.
(5) (a) "Sporting event" means any of the following athletic activities that is organized, managed, or sponsored by an organization:
(i) a game;
(ii) a practice;
(iii) a sports camp;
(iv) a physical education class;
(v) a competition; or
(vi) a tryout.
(b) "Sporting event" does not include:
(i) the issuance of a lift ticket or pass by a ski resort, the use of the ticket or pass, or a ski or snowboarding class or school at a ski resort, unless the skiing or snowboarding is part of a camp, team, or competition that is organized, managed, or sponsored by the ski resort;
(ii) as applied to a government entity, merely making available a field, facility, or other location owned, leased, or controlled by the government entity to an amateur sports organization or a child, regardless of whether the government entity charges a fee for the use; or
(iii) free play or recess taking place during school hours.
(6) "Traumatic head injury" means an injury to the head arising from blunt trauma, an acceleration force, or a deceleration force, with one of the following observed or self-reported conditions attributable to the injury:
(a) transient confusion, disorientation, or impaired consciousness;
(b) dysfunction of memory;
(c) loss of consciousness; or
(d) signs of other neurological or neuropsychological dysfunction, including:
(i) seizures;
(ii) irritability;
(iii) lethargy;
(iv) vomiting;
(v) headache;
(vi) dizziness; or
(vii) fatigue.

Amended by Chapter 18, 2013 General Session

26-53-201. Adoption and enforcement of concussion and head injury policy -- Notice of policy to parent or guardian.

Each amateur sports organization shall:
(1) adopt and enforce a concussion and head injury policy that:
(a) is consistent with the requirements of Section 26-53-301; and
(b) describes the nature and risk of:
(i) a concussion or a traumatic head injury; and

(ii) continuing to participate in a sporting event after sustaining a concussion or a traumatic head injury;

(2) ensure that each agent of the amateur sports organization is familiar with, and has a copy of, the concussion and head injury policy; and

(3) before permitting a child to participate in a sporting event of the amateur sports organization:

(a) provide a written copy of the concussion and head injury policy to a parent or legal guardian of a child; and

(b) obtain the signature of a parent or legal guardian of the child, acknowledging that the parent or legal guardian has read, understands, and agrees to abide by, the concussion and head injury policy.

Enacted by Chapter 97, 2011 General Session

26-53-301. Removal of child suspected of sustaining concussion or a traumatic head injury -- Medical clearance required before return to participation.

(1) An amateur sports organization, and each agent of the amateur sports organization, shall:

(a) immediately remove a child from participating in a sporting event of the amateur sports organization if the child is suspected of sustaining a concussion or a traumatic head injury; and

(b) prohibit the child described in Subsection (1)(a) from participating in a sporting event of the amateur sports organization until the child:

(i) is evaluated by a qualified health care provider who is trained in the evaluation and management of a concussion; and

(ii) provides the amateur sports organization with a written statement from the qualified health care provider described in Subsection (1)(b)(i) stating that:

(A) the qualified health care provider has, within three years before the day on which the written statement is made, successfully completed a continuing education course in the evaluation and management of a concussion; and

(B) the child is cleared to resume participation in the sporting event of the amateur sports organization.

(2) This section does not create a new cause of action.

Enacted by Chapter 97, 2011 General Session

26-53-401. School nurses evaluating student injuries.

(1) A school nurse may assess a child who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or a traumatic head injury during school hours on school property regardless of whether the nurse has received specialized training in the evaluation and management of a concussion.

(2) A school nurse who does not meet the requirements of Subsections 26-53-301(1)(b)(i) and (1)(b)(ii)(A), but who assesses a child who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or traumatic head injury under Subsection (1):

(a) shall refer the child to a qualified health care provider who is trained in the evaluation and management of a concussion; and

(b) may not provide a written statement permitting the child to resume participation in free play or physical education class under Subsection 26-53-301(1)(b)(ii).

(3) A school nurse shall undergo training, described in Section 53A-6-112, in the evaluation and management of a concussion, as funding allows.

Enacted by Chapter 289, 2013 General Session

26-54-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Traumatic Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Rehabilitation Fund."

Enacted by Chapter 226, 2012 General Session

26-54-102. Creation -- Traumatic Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Rehabilitation Fund.

(1) Because the state finds that persons with traumatic spinal cord and brain injuries require intensive, focused, and specific rehabilitation there is created an expendable special revenue fund entitled the Traumatic Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Rehabilitation Fund.

(2) The fund shall consist of:

(a) gifts, grants, donations, or any other conveyance of money that may be made to the fund from private sources;

(b) a portion of the impound fee as designated in Section 41-6a-1406; and

(c) amounts as appropriated by the Legislature.

(3) The fund shall be administered by the executive director of the Department of Health in consultation with the advisory committee created in Section 26-54-103.

(4) A "qualified IRC 501(c)(3) charitable clinic" means a professional medical clinic that:

(a) provides services for people in this state with traumatic spinal cord and brain injuries who require post-acute-care;

(b) employs licensed therapy clinicians; and

(c) has no less than five years experience operating a post-acute-care rehabilitation clinic in the state.

(5) Fund money shall be used to assist qualified IRC 501(c)(3) charitable clinics to provide:

(a) physical, occupational, and speech therapy; and

(b) equipment necessary for daily living activities for people with spinal cord and brain injuries.

(6) All actual and necessary operating expenses for the advisory committee and staff shall be paid by the fund.

Amended by Chapter 400, 2013 General Session

26-54-103. Traumatic Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Rehabilitation Advisory Committee -- Creation -- Membership -- Terms -- Duties.

(1) There is created a Traumatic Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Rehabilitation Fund Advisory Committee.

(2) The advisory committee shall be composed of five members as follows:

(a) the executive director of the Utah Department of Health, or the executive director's designee;

(b) a survivor, or a family member of a survivor of a traumatic brain injury, appointed by the governor;

(c) a survivor, or a family member of a survivor of a traumatic spinal cord injury, appointed by the governor;

(d) a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(e) a member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate.

(3) (a) The term of advisory committee members shall be four years. If a vacancy occurs in the committee membership for any reason, a replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

(b) The committee shall elect a chairperson from the membership.

(c) A majority of the committee constitutes a quorum at any meeting, and, if a quorum is present at an open meeting, the action of the majority of members shall be the action of the advisory committee.

(d) The terms of the advisory committee shall be staggered so that members appointed under Subsections (2)(b) and (d) shall serve an initial two-year term and members appointed under Subsections (2)(c) and (e) shall serve four-year terms. Thereafter, members appointed to the advisory committee shall serve four-year terms.

(4) The advisory committee shall comply with the procedures and requirements of:

(a) Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act;

(b) Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act; and

(c) Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(5) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but, at the executive director's discretion, may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

(a) Section 63A-3-106;

(b) Section 63A-3-107; and

(c) rules adopted by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

(6) The advisory committee shall:

(a) adopt rules and procedures in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, that establish priorities and criteria for the advisory committee to follow in recommending distribution of money from the fund to assist qualified IRC 501(c)(3) charitable clinics;

(b) identify, evaluate, and review the quality of care available to people with traumatic spinal cord and brain injuries through qualified IRC 501(c)(3) charitable clinics;

(c) explore, evaluate, and review other possible funding sources and make a recommendation to the Legislature regarding sources that would provide adequate

funding for the advisory committee to accomplish its responsibilities under this section; and

(d) submit an annual report, not later than November 30 of each year, summarizing the activities of the advisory committee and making recommendations regarding the ongoing needs of people with spinal cord or brain injuries to:

(i) the governor;

(ii) the Health and Human Services Interim Committee; and

(iii) the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee.

Enacted by Chapter 226, 2012 General Session