

PERSON TO FILE THE REQUIRED REPORT, THE DEPARTMENT MAY APPLY TO THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PERSON IS A RESIDENT, OR DOING BUSINESS, FOR AN ORDER TO COMPEL THE FILING OF THE REPORT. FAILURE TO OBEY THE ORDER SHALL BE PUNISHABLE AS CONTEMPT OF COURT.

(4) IN CONNECTION WITH SERVICES RENDERED BY A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OR GRANTEE, THE INVESTIGATION OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE PATIENT, A RESPONSIBLE RELATIVE, OR OTHER PERSON WHO MAY BE LEGALLY CHARGEABLE FOR HIS OR HER CARE, AND THE DETERMINATION OF THE AMOUNTS OF PAYMENT AND COLLECTION THEREOF, MAY BE DELEGATED TO THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OR GRANTEE WITH THE REQUIREMENT THAT ALL LAWS AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO INVESTIGATION OF FINANCIAL ABILITY AND SETTING OF AMOUNTS OF PAYMENT TO BE CHARGED ARE FOLLOWED.

(5) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS AND DEBTS SHALL BE HANDLED BY THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT CREATED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FISCAL PLANNING.

(C) (1) PAYMENTS SHALL BE MADE BY THE PATIENT, A RESPONSIBLE RELATIVE OR OTHER PERSON WHO MAY BE LEGALLY CHARGEABLE WITH HIS OR HER CARE. LIABILITY FOR PAYMENT SHALL BE JOINT AND SEVERAL.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SPECIFY THE TIME AND AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS. IT MAY FROM TIME TO TIME, MODIFY ITS ORDERS AS TO PAYMENTS, AS CIRCUMSTANCES MAY WARRANT. IN SETTING THE AMOUNTS OF PAYMENTS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER THE FINANCIAL MEANS OR ABILITIES OF THE PATIENT AND RESPONSIBLE RELATIVES AND OTHER PERSONS, AND MAY AGREE TO ACCEPT LESS THAN THE CHARGES ESTABLISHED FOR THE CARE RECEIVED.

(3) THE AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS CHARGED RESPONSIBLE RELATIVES OF THE PATIENT, IF PAYMENT HAS BEEN MADE FOR THE FIRST 30 MONTHS OF HOSPITALIZATION, SHALL THEREAFTER NOT EXCEED THE GREATER OF:

(A) THE SUM OF ANY PROCEEDS OF APPLICABLE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH PLAN, OR PREPAID MEDICAL CARE PAID BY THE INSURER OR PLAN BY REASON OF LIABILITY FOR THE PAYMENT OF OR REPAYMENT FOR THE COST OF MEDICAL TREATMENT RENDERED THE PATIENT, OR;

(B) 15% OF THE CHARGE ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION. CONTINUOUS HOSPITALIZATION MEANS AND INCLUDES ALL HOSPITALIZATION WHERE SUCCESSIVE PERIODS OF INPATIENT CARE ARE NOT SEPARATED BY ABSENCES IN EXCESS OF ONE YEAR.