

~~rendering health services, computed by methods the Commission prescribes; and which after the expiration of three or four additional years, as hereinafter set forth, will also review and certify as to the reasonableness of the rates established by these institutions. It will also be the Commission's responsibility to keep itself informed as to whether the financial resources of each institution are sufficient to meet its financial requirements and to concern itself with solutions when resources are inadequate.~~

~~[b.] (C) From and after July 1, 1974, an additional responsibility of this Commission is to assure all purchasers of health care hospital services that the total costs of the hospital are reasonably related to the total services offered by the hospital; that the hospital's aggregate rates are set in reasonable relationship to the hospital's aggregate costs; and that rates are set equitably among all purchasers of services without undue discrimination.~~

~~[c.] (D) The provisions of subsection [b of this section shall] (C) apply to related institutions, as that term is defined in § 556 of this article, from and after July 1, 1975.~~

~~(E) (1) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORD HAS THE MEANING INDICATED.~~

~~(2) "PURCHASERS" MEANS ANY PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, OR GOVERNMENT AGENCY WHICH CONTRACTS WITH OR PAYS A HOSPITAL OR RELATED INSTITUTION FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER THESE SERVICES ARE RENDERED TO THE PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, OR GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY WHO CONTRACTS TO OR WHO PAYS.~~

568N.

(C) ANY PERSON, GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN WHICH CONTRACTS WITH OR PAYS A HOSPITAL OR RELATED INSTITUTION FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES SHALL HAVE STANDING TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMISSION HEARINGS AND SHALL BE ALLOWED TO APPEAL FINAL DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1977.

Approved May 17, 1977.