

Amendment: D8

Representative HEWITT proposes the following amendment:

Section 33 Department of Health and Human Services

Amend:

33.31. (DHHS: Children’s Hospital and Healthcare Innovation) From the funds appropriated for South Carolina Children’s Hospital and Healthcare Innovation, the department shall ~~establish~~ *continue* the South Carolina Children’s Hospital and Healthcare Innovation Program. The purpose of the program is to make strategic investments to ensure that children have in-state access to state-of-the-art children’s hospitals and pediatric specialty services *to include pediatric palliative care*. The South Carolina Children’s Hospital Collaborative, the state children’s hospital association, will annually submit for approval by the department funding priorities for infrastructure, working in partnership with the department to additionally identify regional or statewide pediatric specialty service priorities. A minimum of *\$2,500,000 shall be utilized for pediatric palliative care services while 80% of the remaining* funds shall be utilized for children’s hospital infrastructure priorities, being divided equally between the qualifying children’s hospitals unless otherwise agreed upon by the South Carolina Children’s Hospital Collaborative. Funds not allocated to *pediatric palliative care services and* children’s hospital infrastructure priorities will be utilized for *other* pediatric specialty service priorities agreed upon by the department and the South Carolina Children’s Hospital Collaborative. Qualifying children’s hospitals must be nonprofit systems providing comprehensive pediatric inpatient and outpatient services, serve as the regional perinatal center for their perinatal region, and serve as training sites for the Medical University of South Carolina or the University of South Carolina medical schools. Annually, and no later than December 31st, the department will provide to the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee a report on the disposition of the funds and progress made on identified priorities.