

4790

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 17, 2015

Introduced by Sen. HANNON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law and the public authorities law, in relation to establishing a private equity pilot program

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Section 2801-a of the public health law is amended by  
2 adding a new subdivision 17 to read as follows:  
3 17. (A) THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM TO  
4 ASSIST IN RESTRUCTURING HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEMS BY ALLOWING FOR  
5 INCREASED CAPITAL INVESTMENT. PURSUANT TO THE PILOT PROGRAM, THE PUBLIC  
6 HEALTH AND HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL SHALL APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT, IN  
7 ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPHS (F), (G) AND (H) OF THIS  
8 SUBDIVISION AND SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION, OF NO MORE THAN TEN  
9 BUSINESS CORPORATIONS FORMED UNDER THE BUSINESS CORPORATION LAW. SUCH  
10 BUSINESS CORPORATIONS SHALL AFFILIATE, THE EXTENT OF THE AFFILIATION TO  
11 BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSIONER, WITH AT LEAST ONE ACADEMIC MEDICAL  
12 INSTITUTION OR TEACHING HOSPITAL APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER. A BUSI-  
13 NESS CORPORATION SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM IF  
14 ANY OF ITS STOCK, OR THAT OF ANY OF ITS DIRECT OR INDIRECT OWNERS, IS OR  
15 WILL BE TRADED ON A PUBLIC STOCK EXCHANGE OR ON AN OVER-THE-COUNTER  
16 MARKET.  
17 (B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY, BUSINESS  
18 CORPORATIONS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL BE DEEMED  
19 ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN DEBT FINANCING PROVIDED BY THE DORMITORY  
20 AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS AND  
21 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS.  
22 (C) THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER SHALL NOT APPLY TO BUSI-  
23 NESS CORPORATIONS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION: (I) PARA-  
24 GRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION, RELATING TO STOCKHOLD-  
25 ERS, OTHER THAN PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS; (II) PARAGRAPH (C) OF

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 SUBDIVISION FOUR OF THIS SECTION, RELATING TO THE DISPOSITION OF STOCK  
2 OR VOTING RIGHTS; (III) PARAGRAPHS (D) AND (E) OF SUBDIVISION FOUR OF  
3 THIS SECTION, RELATING TO THE OWNERSHIP OF STOCK; AND (IV) PARAGRAPH (A)  
4 OF SUBDIVISION THREE OF SECTION FOUR THOUSAND FOUR OF THIS CHAPTER,  
5 RELATING TO THE OWNERSHIP OF STOCK. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, THE  
6 PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MAY REQUIRE THE DISCLOSURE OF  
7 THE IDENTITY OF STOCKHOLDERS.

8 (D) THE CORPORATE POWERS AND PURPOSES OF A BUSINESS CORPORATION ESTAB-  
9 LISHED AS AN OPERATOR PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL BE LIMITED TO  
10 THE OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION, OR OPERATION, OF A HOSPITAL OR HOSPITALS  
11 SPECIFICALLY NAMED AND THE LOCATION OR LOCATIONS OF WHICH ARE SPECIF-  
12 ICALLY DESIGNATED BY STREET ADDRESS, CITY, TOWN, VILLAGE OR LOCALITY AND  
13 COUNTY; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE CORPORATE POWERS AND PURPOSES MAY  
14 ALSO INCLUDE THE OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION, OR OPERATION, OF A CERTIFIED  
15 HOME HEALTH AGENCY OR LICENSED HOME CARE SERVICES AGENCY OR AGENCIES AS  
16 DEFINED IN ARTICLE THIRTY-SIX OF THIS CHAPTER OR A HOSPICE OR HOSPICES  
17 AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE FORTY OF THIS CHAPTER, IF THE CORPORATION HAS  
18 RECEIVED ALL APPROVALS REQUIRED UNDER SUCH LAW TO OWN AND OPERATE, OR  
19 OPERATE, SUCH HOME CARE SERVICES AGENCY OR AGENCIES OR HOSPICE OR  
20 HOSPICES. SUCH CORPORATE POWERS AND PURPOSES SHALL NOT BE MODIFIED,  
21 AMENDED OR DELETED WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSIONER.

22 (E)(1) IN DISCHARGING THE DUTIES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS, THE  
23 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD AND INDIVIDUAL DIRECTORS AND  
24 OFFICERS OF A BUSINESS CORPORATION ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVI-  
25 SION SHALL CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF ANY ACTION UPON:

26 (A) THE ABILITY OF THE BUSINESS CORPORATION TO ACCOMPLISH ITS PURPOSE;  
27 (B) THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE BUSINESS CORPORATION;  
28 (C) THE EMPLOYEES AND WORKFORCE OF THE HOSPITAL OR HOSPITALS;  
29 (D) THE INTERESTS OF PATIENTS OF THE HOSPITAL OR HOSPITALS;  
30 (E) COMMUNITY AND SOCIETAL CONSIDERATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE OF ANY  
31 COMMUNITY IN WHICH FACILITIES OF THE HOSPITAL OR HOSPITALS ARE LOCATED;  
32 AND

33 (F) THE SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM INTERESTS OF THE BUSINESS CORPO-  
34 RATION, INCLUDING BENEFITS THAT MAY ACCRUE TO THE BUSINESS CORPORATION  
35 FROM ITS LONG-TERM PLANS.

36 (2) THE CONSIDERATION OF INTERESTS AND FACTORS IN THE MANNER REQUIRED  
37 BY SUBPARAGRAPH ONE OF THIS PARAGRAPH:

38 (A) SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION  
39 SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTEEN OR SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTEEN OF THE BUSINESS CORPO-  
40 RATION LAW; AND

41 (B) IS IN ADDITION TO THE ABILITY OF DIRECTORS TO CONSIDER INTERESTS  
42 AND FACTORS AS PROVIDED IN SECTION SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTEEN OF THE BUSI-  
43 NESS CORPORATION LAW.

44 (F) WHILE ANY DECISION TO APPROVE A BUSINESS CORPORATION UNDER THIS  
45 SECTION MUST WEIGH AND BALANCE A NUMBER OF FACTORS, IN DETERMINING  
46 WHETHER TO APPROVE A BUSINESS CORPORATION UNDER THIS SECTION, THE PUBLIC  
47 HEALTH AND HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSION-  
48 ER, SHALL CONSIDER THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE BUSINESS CORPORATION:

49 (1) PROVIDES FOR EITHER EQUAL OR MAJORITY GOVERNANCE RIGHTS OF THE  
50 NOT-FOR-PROFIT HOSPITAL PARTNER, REGARDLESS OF EQUITY STAKES, THROUGH  
51 WEIGHTED CLASS VOTING STRUCTURE OR OTHERWISE;

52 (2) INCORPORATES A REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNANCE MODEL THAT:

53 (A) CLEARLY DELINEATES AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HOSPITAL'S  
54 OPERATIONS; AND

55 (B) DEFINES MECHANISMS FOR APPROVAL OF DESIGNATED SHAREHOLDERS OR  
56 INVESTORS;

1 (3) IS INCORPORATED AS A BENEFIT CORPORATION UNDER THE BUSINESS CORPO-  
2 RATION LAW;

3 (4) COMMITS TO MAINTAINING OR ENHANCING EXISTING LEVELS OF SERVICES,  
4 CHARITY CARE AND CORE COMMUNITY BENEFITS;

5 (5) IDENTIFIES AN ACTIONABLE STRATEGY TO MONITOR AND MAINTAIN OR  
6 IMPROVE QUALITY OF CARE;

7 (6) EXPLAINS THE LEVEL OF CAPITAL COMMITMENT AND THE MECHANISM OR  
8 MECHANISMS FOR INFUSING CAPITAL INTO THE NOT-FOR-PROFIT HOSPITAL PART-  
9 NER;

10 (7) EXPLAINS HOW IT WILL RETAIN THE WORKFORCE, EITHER IN EXISTING JOBS  
11 OR THROUGH RETRAINING, AND ADDRESSES OBLIGATIONS OWED TO EMPLOYEE BENE-  
12 FIT PLANS AND PENSIONS;

13 (8) WILL CREATE A FOUNDATION TO ADDRESS THE PUBLIC HEALTH NEEDS OF THE  
14 COMMUNITY; AND

15 (9) IDENTIFIES HOW PROFIT DISTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE MADE IN A WAY TO  
16 ENSURE THAT THE COMMUNITY'S ACCESS TO QUALITY CARE AND CORE COMMUNITY  
17 BENEFITS ARE NOT COMPROMISED AND ACCESS TO CAPITAL IS NOT COMPROMISED.

18 NONE OF THE FOREGOING FACTORS SHALL BE DISPOSITIVE IN THE APPROVAL OR  
19 DISAPPROVAL OF THE BUSINESS CORPORATION.

20 (G) NO BUSINESS CORPORATION SHALL BE APPROVED UNDER THIS SECTION THAT  
21 FAILS TO ATTEST THAT IT WILL PROVIDE THE NOT-FOR-PROFIT HOSPITAL PARTNER  
22 WITH THE EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY OVER FUNCTIONS RELATING TO ITS EXEMPT  
23 STATUS.

24 (H) THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A BUSINESS CORPORATION ESTABLISHED  
25 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL BE DEEMED A "GOVERNING BODY" FOR THE  
26 PURPOSES OF SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED THREE-L OF THIS ARTICLE AND  
27 SHALL COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SUCH SECTION, REGARDLESS OF THE  
28 CORPORATION'S PROFIT-MAKING STATUS.

29 (I) A SALE, LEASE, CONVEYANCE, EXCHANGE, TRANSFER, OR OTHER DISPOSI-  
30 TION OF ALL OR SUBSTANTIALLY ALL OF THE ASSETS OF THE BUSINESS CORPO-  
31 RATION SHALL NOT BE EFFECTIVE UNLESS THE TRANSACTION IS APPROVED BY THE  
32 COMMISSIONER.

33 NO SUCH TRANSACTION MAY OCCUR WITHIN THREE YEARS OF THE COMMISSIONER'S  
34 APPROVAL OF THE BUSINESS CORPORATION'S PARTICIPATION IN THE DEMON-  
35 STRATION PROJECT. IN APPROVING SUCH A TRANSACTION, THE COMMISSIONER  
36 SHALL CONSIDER, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WHETHER THE TRANSACTION:

37 (1) IMPOSES SAFEGUARDS TO PROTECT QUALITY AND ACCESS TO CORE COMMUNITY  
38 SERVICES DURING THE TRANSITION TO THE NEW INVESTOR;

39 (2) REQUIRES THE SUBSEQUENT INVESTOR TO GUARANTEE ALL OBLIGATIONS,  
40 INCLUDING THOSE DESCRIBED IN SUBPARAGRAPH SEVEN OF PARAGRAPH (F) OF THIS  
41 SUBDIVISION;

42 (3) WILL MAINTAIN THE HOSPITAL GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE; AND

43 (4) IMPOSES MINIMUM CAPITALIZATION CRITERIA POST-TRANSACTION.

44 (J) NO LATER THAN THREE YEARS AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BUSINESS  
45 CORPORATION UNDER THIS SUBDIVISION, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PROVIDE THE  
46 GOVERNOR, THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE  
47 ASSEMBLY WITH A WRITTEN EVALUATION OF THE PILOT PROGRAM. SUCH EVALUATION  
48 SHALL ADDRESS THE OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM IN ALLOWING FOR  
49 ACCESS TO CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND THE IMPACT SUCH ACCESS MAY HAVE ON THE  
50 QUALITY OF CARE PROVIDED BY HOSPITALS OPERATED BY BUSINESS CORPORATIONS  
51 ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBDIVISION.

52 S 2. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 of section 1676 of the public  
53 authorities law is amended by adding a new undesignated paragraph to  
54 read as follows:

55 SUCH BUSINESS CORPORATIONS AS ARE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION  
56 SEVENTEEN OF SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED ONE-A OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW

1 FOR THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION AND  
2 IMPROVEMENT, OR OTHERWISE PROVIDING, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF A  
3 HOSPITAL OR HOSPITALS.

4 S 3. Subdivision 1 of section 1680 of the public authorities law is  
5 amended by adding a new undesignated paragraph to read as follows:

6 SUCH BUSINESS CORPORATIONS AS ARE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION  
7 SEVENTEEN OF SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED ONE-A OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW  
8 FOR THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION AND  
9 IMPROVEMENT, OR OTHERWISE PROVIDING, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF A  
10 HOSPITAL OR HOSPITALS.

11 S 4. This act shall take effect immediately.