A BILL

FOR

AN ACT RELATING TO THE HOSPITAL ESTABLISHED BY CHAPTER 174 OF THE SESSION LAWS OF 1921.

Be it Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. The name and style of the hospital authorized in Chapter 174 of the Session Laws of 1921 shall be the Colorado General Hospital, hereinafter called the Hospital.

SECTION 2. The conduct of said Hospital shall be vested in the Board of Regents of the University of Colorado. Said Board of Regents shall have full power to manage, control and govern the said Hospital under such rules and regulations as they may from time to time prescribe and shall appoint all officers, staff and employees of said Hospital.

Said Board of Regents shall have full power and authority to accept legacies, bequests and donations which may be tendered in good faith for the benefit of the said Hospital and to apply the same to the furtherance of the purposes of said Hospital, to the end that those benefits may accrue to the greatest possible extent to the afflicted citizens of the state.

SECTION 3. Said Hospital shall be primarily and principally conducted for the care of legal residents of Colorado who are afflicted, not with chronic illness, but with a malady, deformity, or ailment of a nature which can probably be remedied by hospital care and treatment, and who are unable financially to secure such care, or in case of a minor, whose parent, guardian, trustee or other person having lawful custody of his person, as the case may be, is unable financially to secure such care.

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The Hospital is hereby designated as a place of treatment for such persons.

SECTION 4. Said Hospital shall be utilized for such instruction and for such scientific research as will in the opinion of the Board of Regents promote the welfare of the patients committed to its care, and assist in the application of science to the alleviation of human suffering.

SECTION 5. Whenever the existence of a case described in Section 3 of this Act shall come to the notice of any person, it shall be his or her duty to file with the County Commissioners of the county of the legal residence of such person, an application for the treatment of such person at the said Hospital. Such application shall be made in duplicate on blanks to be furnished by the Hospital, and shall contain a full statement of the financial situation of the person sought to be treated and a general statement of his physical condition, and shall be verified.

Upon the filing of such application with said County Commissioners, it shall be the duty of said County Commissioners to cause a thorough investigation to be made into the financial condition of said person sought to be treated, and to secure report of such investigation within such time as said County Commissioners may direct, and it shall be the duty of any public official of any county, city or town of the residence of the person sought to be treated to supply to the County Commissioners on request thereof, all information within his knowledge, relative to the financial situation of the person sought to be treated.

It shall further be the duty of said County Commissioners to appoint a physician of said county, or of some other county as they may choose, who shall make personally an examination of the person on whose behalf application for treatment has been filed. Said physician shall thereupon make and file with the County Commissioners a verified report in writing setting forth the nature and history of the case, the findings on physical examination, and such other information as will be likely to aid in the medical or surgical treatment of the mal-
ady, deformity or ailment affecting such person, and shall also state in his re-
port whether or not, in his opinion, the condition of such person can probably
be remedied by the hospital care sought. The report of said physician shall be
made in duplicate within such time as the Commissioners may direct, and upon
blanks to be furnished by the Hospital for that purpose.

If said person on whose behalf application is made, or, in case of a minor,
the parent or guardian, guardian or trustee, in representative capacity, or the
person having legal custody over him, or legally responsible for his support or
maintenance, shall request a hearing on said application, said County Com-
missioners shall fix a date for such hearing upon the application, and shall
cause the person, or the parent or parents, guardian or other person having
legal custody of said person, as the case may be, to be served with a notice of
the hearing. If, after receiving such reports, or after such hearing, or both,
said County Commissioners shall be satisfied that the person on whose behalf
application is made, is not financially able to provide himself with proper treat-
ment, or, in case of a minor, that his parent, guardian or trustee, in representa-
tive capacity, or the person having legal custody over him, or legally responsible
for his support or maintenance, is not financially able to provide such treat-
ment, and shall further be satisfied that he is afflicted with a malady, deformity
or ailment which can probably be remedied by hospital care and treatment, then
said County Commissioners shall enter an order finding such facts and certify-
ing their approval of said application, and, with the consent of said person, or
parent, guardian or trustee, or other person having legal custody of said per-
son, as the case may be, shall enter an order directing that said person shall be
taken to the Hospital for proper hospital care and medical or surgical treat-
ment, the expense of such hospital care and treatment to be met in the manner
hereinafter provided.

In case the County Commissioners are not so satisfied they may take ad-

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ditional testimony, or make such further investigation as to them shall seem proper. The County Commissioners may reject any application which is found to be without sufficient merit.

If the Commissioners should find that an applicant or the person legally responsible for his or her care is able to pay in part, but not in full, for care at the Hospital, at the rate to be charged as determined in Section 6 of this Act, the Commissioners may approve the application of such person on such terms of division of hospital charges as they may deem equitable and just, and shall certify such finding upon the application of such person. In such an event, the county shall receive credit for one-half and the state one-half of all moneys paid to the Hospital in excess of that sum which the county shall hereinafter be required to pay for hospital care and treatment.

If it shall appear to said County Commissioners that said patient is not financially able to provide himself with transportation to said Hospital, or in case of a minor, that his parents, guardian or trustee, in representative capacity, or the person having legal custody over him or legally responsible for his support and maintenance, is not financially able to provide such transportation to said Hospital, then the said Commissioners shall so certify on the application of said patient, and shall advance the money necessary to pay his transportation expenses to said Hospital. The expense so incurred in transporting said patient to said Hospital shall be approved by the Commissioners ordering such transportation and upon statement of said expense being filed with the superintendent of said Hospital, shall be paid for by said Hospital, and credit for same given to said county.

Upon the entry of the order by the County Commissioners approving such application, they shall communicate with the superintendent of the Hospital and ascertain whether or not the applicant can be received as a patient and shall thereupon notify said patient whether or not he can be received. A copy of

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the application, the physician's report and order of the County Commissioners approving the application shall be sent to the superintendent of said Hospital.

PROVIDED, that no such person shall be received into said Hospital for care and treatment unless in the judgment of the superintendent of said Hospital said patient shall be a suitable case in which there shall be a reasonable probability of such person being benefited by such hospital care and medical or surgical treatment.

SECTION 6. The Hospital shall treat patients admitted on order of the County Commissioners of any county at rates based on actual cost as determined by the Board of Regents of the university, as hereinafter set forth. Any legal resident of the state, upon satisfying the Board of Regents of the University of Colorado that he is unable to pay ordinary physician's fees and hospital charges, may be received upon paying at a rate based upon the actual per diem expense at the time of entering.

Students of the university and such other patients as the Board of Regents, to an extent that will not interfere with the primary purpose of said Hospital as set forth in Section 3 may direct, may be received in said Hospital whenever there is room. The Board of Regents may always admit to the Hospital such cases as they may deem are emergency. All fees received from patients shall be used for the purposes of said Hospital.

SECTION 7. The said Board of Regents shall determine from time to time the actual per diem cost per patient of care, treatment, nursing, food and necessities, including general maintenance and administration, furnished by said Hospital.

For each county patient a charge against the county of legal residence of said patient shall be made at a rate fixed by the said Board of Regents from year to year but at no time shall such charge to the county exceed a rate of one-half the per diem cost as determined hereinafore.

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At its first meeting in each month, the Board of Regents of the State Uni-
versity shall prepare and transmit to the respective Boards of County Commis-
sioners of the several counties liable for such hospital care, a certificate showing
in detail the person on whose account such expenses were incurred, the amount
due on each person, respectively, for the month preceding, and the said Board
of County Commissioners shall allow the sum so certified against the respective
counties and shall pay the same in cash to the Hospital the same as other cur-
rent expenses of said county.

SECTION 8. No compensation shall be charged or received by any off-
er of the Hospital, or by any physician, surgeon, nurse, or other employee in
its service, who shall treat or care for any patient in said Hospital, other than
the compensation provided for such persons by the Board of Regents of the un-
iversity.

SECTION 9. Whenever, in the opinion of the superintendent of the Hos-
pital, any patient should be discharged therefrom as cured, or as no longer need-
ing treatment, or for the reason that treatment cannot benefit his case, or for
other good and sufficient reasons, said superintendent shall discharge said pa-
tient.

If, upon the discharge of any patient from the Hospital, it shall appear to
the superintendent thereof that said patient, upon his discharge, is not financial-
ly able to provide himself with transportation to his home or other place to
which he may be discharged, said superintendent may authorize the payment
of such transportation on behalf of said patient.

SECTION 10. The Colorado Board of Corrections may make application
to the Board of Regents of the University of Colorado for the admission to the
Hospital of any inmate of any state institution under the said Board of Cor-
rections, or any person committed to or applying for admission thereto who is
afflicted with any disease, malady, deformity or ailment which can probably be
remedied or which can be advantageously treated by medical or surgical care
at the Hospital. Said application shall be accompanied by the report of the
physician of said institution, or by a physician appointed by the Board of Cor-
rections, in the same form as reports of other physicians for admission of pa-
tients to said Hospital. The superintendent of the Hospital shall decide
whether such patient may be received by the Hospital, and if received, when
he shall be discharged or returned to the institution from which he came. The
Board of Corrections shall pay the Regents of the University of Colorado for
the treatment of such patient at a rate based upon the actual per diem expense
obtaining at the time of entering as hereinabove determined, and the expense
of such treatment and of transporting such patient to and from the Hospital
shall be paid out of the appropriation for operation of the institution from
which said patient is sent. Said Board of Corrections may, when necessary,
send an attendant with, or to bring back such patient, and pay for traveling ex-
penses in like manner.

SECTION 11. There is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the
treasury of the State of Colorado, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of
Seventy-five Thousand Dollars ($75,000.00), for the maintenance, up-keep, and
administrative expenses of the Colorado General Hospital of the University of
Colorado, including salaries and wages of officers and employees of said Hos-
pital and expenses of patients who fail to pay their own expenses for the bien-
nial period of 1923, and 1924; and,

There is hereby further appropriated as a continuing appropriation out of
any moneys in the treasury of the State of Colorado, not otherwise appropriat-
ed, the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($150,000.00) per
annum commencing December 1, 1924, for the maintenance, up-keep and admin-
istrative expenses of the Colorado General Hospital of the University of Colo-
rado, including salaries and wages of officers and employees of said Hospital

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and expenses of patients who fail to pay their own expenses.

The appropriations hereinabove in this section provided shall be deemed to be appropriations of the second class in accordance with Chapter 13, Page 37 of the Session Laws of the General Assembly of Colorado of 1943, and shall be expended by the Board of Regents of the University of Colorado in accordance with Article 9 of Section 14 of the Constitution of the State of Colorado. Such appropriations shall be kept by the Board of Regents in a special fund, to be known as the Colorado General Hospital Fund, and shall be used exclusively for the purposes in this Act provided.

SECTION 12. The General Assembly hereby declares that this Act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety.