

doctors required to provide the service then at that set rate?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes, they would be.

SENATOR SMITH: But are they required...do they have to do it? In other words, can they elect not to accept and they just don't do it?

SENATOR LYNCH: Well, some hospitals could provide the service and not even claim reimbursement. We are not sure, but if a hos...the Department of Social Services would contract with providers, and in the process of that contracting, would predetermine what they would pay, and so when a hospital or provider of any kind provided care for somebody who ultimately was eligible for this program, that provider or hospital would be reimbursed based on that amount predetermined by the Department of Social Services by contract.

SENATOR SMITH: Right, but what my question is, does a hospital in a vicinity, are they required to provide the service? So, in other words, if they don't want to do it at this rate, then they don't have to do it anyway, so the indigent care is still not provided, is that correct?

SENATOR LYNCH: They have to provide emergency. All hospitals have to provide emergency care, but after the emergency is served, that hospital, if it decided it did not want to participate or that physician, then the patient after being treated and his life stabilized could be transferred to another institution or physician for ongoing care.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, and then I guess what I would also like to ask is that in the committee amendments that were adopted, the section here that deals, I guess it would be on your first page, Section 7, regarding the scope of medical services to be provided. Immunizations, prescription medications, examinations, treatment provided in, by, or through an office, clinic, center, or other facility which is approved by or under contract, and then it also talks about psychiatric services and those kind of things, is there any cap on this kind of service, and is there any...who is overseeing that process of providing the services?

SENATOR LYNCH: The key in that section, Senator Smith, to help answer your question, is contained beginning in line 15 where it