

No. 131, S.]

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CHAPTER 564

AN ACT to create 141.10 of the statutes, relating to the establishment of programs of home nursing care on a fee basis.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

141.10 of the statutes is created to read:

141.10 HOME NURSING CARE. (1) AUTHORITY. County boards of supervisors or city councils may authorize their respective county health committee or county or city board of health to establish programs of home nursing care, including rehabilitative nursing services, to employ additional nurses as provided in s. 141.045, and to collect fees for such services to ill or disabled persons. The county health committee or board of health authorized to establish a program of home nursing care shall develop a plan of operation in consultation with a representative of the state board of health and the county medical society. The representatives of the state board of health and county medical society shall be invited to provide advice and guidance on the operation of the program. Home nursing care shall be provided under the direction of a licensed physician of the patient's choice.

(2) FEES FOR NURSING CARE ONLY. A fee may be established and collected only for nursing care to the sick in their place of residence. Visits for health instruction and supervision, when counseling or demonstration care only are indicated, shall be given without charge as part of the established program of public health nursing.

(3) FEE SCHEDULE. A schedule of fees shall be established.

(a) As a result of a cost study conducted at least every 3 years and filed as required with the state board of health after approval by the county board or city council; or

(b) By the adoption of a schedule of fees established by the state board of health from information gathered by it.

(4) CHARGES. Persons receiving such home nursing care shall not be charged fees in excess of the scheduled costs, and shall be charged according to their ability to pay full or part costs as determined by the policy of the county health committee or board of health. No person shall be denied necessary services, within the limits of available personnel, because of inability to pay the cost of such service. The county board or city council shall determine the procedure for collecting and depositing fees and auditing receipts.

(5) CONTRACTS WITH OTHERS. Any county or city health department or nursing service authorized to establish a plan of home nursing care may contract with public, private or voluntary agencies to provide home nursing care to clients of such agencies.

(6) GIFTS AND GRANTS. Counties and cities under this plan may accept grants, bequests and gifts for the development and expansion of home nursing services to patients.

Approved October 3, 1961.
