As Reported by the House Health Committee

127th General Assembly Regular Session 2007-2008

Sub. H. B. No. 164

Representative McGregor, R.

Cosponsors: Representatives McGregor, J., Huffman, Evans, Skindell, Seitz, Dodd, Widener, Flowers, Stewart, J., Gibbs, Stebelton, Stewart, D., Bacon, Daniels, Miller, Foley, Wachtmann, Chandler, Peterson, White, Webster, Otterman, Fende, Brown, Boyd

A BILL

To amend section 2305.2341 and to enact section

3701.047 of the Revised Code to permit the Ohio

Department of Health to promote the establishment

of federally qualified health centers and create a

pilot program to place federally qualified health

centers in or adjacent to two hospital emergency

departments and to include federally qualified

health center look-alikes in the medical

malpractice premium assistance program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 2305.2341 be amended and section	10
3701.047 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	11
Sec. 2305.2341. (A) The medical liability insurance	12
reimbursement program is hereby established. Free clinics and	13
federally qualified health center look-alikes, including the	14
clinics' and centers' staff and volunteer health care	15
professionals and volunteer health care workers, may participate	16

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(4) A copy of the medical liability insurance policy 48 purchased by the free clinic or federally qualified health center 49 look-alike, or the policy's declaration page, and documentation of 50 the premiums paid by the clinic or center. 51 (C) The department of health shall reimburse free clinics and 52 federally qualified health center look-alikes participating in the 53 professional liability insurance reimbursement program for up to 54 eighty per cent of the premiums that the free clinic or center 55 pays for medical liability insurance coverage up to twenty 56 thousand dollars. Appropriations to the department of health may 57 be made from the general fund of the state for this purpose. 58 (D) As used in this section: 59 (1) "Federally qualified health center look-alike" means a 60 public or not-for-profit health center that meets the eliqibility 61 requirements to receive a federal public health services grant 62 under the "Public Health Services Act," 117 Stat. 2020, 42 U.S.C. 63 254b, as amended, but does not receive grant funding. 64 (2) "Free clinic" means a nonprofit organization exempt from 65 federal income taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the "Internal 66 Revenue Code of 1986," as amended, or a program component of a 67 nonprofit organization, whose primary mission is to provide health 68 care services for free or for a minimal administrative fee to 69 individuals with limited resources. A free clinic facilitates the 70 delivery of health care services through the use of volunteer 71 health care professionals and voluntary care networks. For this 72 purpose, a free clinic shall comply with all of the following: 73 74 (a) If a free clinic does request a minimal administrative fee, a free clinic shall not deny an individual access to its 75 health care services based on an individual's ability to pay the 76 fee. 77

(b) A free clinic shall not bill a patient for health care

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grants under that section.	109
Section 2. That existing section 2305.2341 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.	110 111
Section 3. (A) As used in this section:	112
(1) "Federally qualified health center" means a health center that receives a federal public health services grant under the	113 114
"Public Health Services Act," 117 Stat. 2020, 42 U.S.C. 254b, as amended, or another health center designated by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration as a federally qualified	115 116 117
health center.	118
(2) "Rural area" means any area of this state not located in a metropolitan statistical area.	119 120
(3) "Urban area" means any area of this state located in a metropolitan statistical area.	121 122
(B) The Department of Health may establish a pilot program to place two federally qualified health centers in or adjacent to hospital emergency departments. If the Department chooses to	123 124 125
establish a pilot program, the following shall occur:	126
(1) The Department shall locate one health center in or adjacent to a hospital located in an urban area and the other	127 128
health center in or adjacent to a hospital in a rural area.	129
(2)(a) Except as provided in division (B)(2)(b) of this section, each hospital and health center that participates in the	130 131
pilot program shall, not later than one year after the health	132
center becomes operational, prepare and submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding the number of patients	133 134
that received care at the health center for nonemergency	135
conditions rather than receiving care in the hospital's emergency department.	136 137
(b) If the Department is unable to establish the pilot	138

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program not later than one year after the effective date of this	139
section, the Department shall submit a report to the Governor and	140
the General Assembly indicating the Department's progress.	141