

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2004 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-34-2004
 Chapter No. 21
 Proposed and Presented by Council Member Knotts
 Introduced by Council Members Knotts, Dean, Exum, Harrington and Peters
 Co-Sponsors _____
 Date of Introduction May 27, 2004

EMERGENCY BILL

1 AN EMERGENCY ACT concerning

2 Non-Departmental Grants and Transfer Payments

3 For the purpose of providing conditions upon the use of certain funds appropriated for
 4 Dimensions Healthcare Systems, Inc.

5 WHEREAS, on November 25, 2003, the County Council, in partnership with the County
 6 Executive, enacted CB-98-2003, to provide for an immediate cash infusion of \$5 Million to
 7 stabilize the fiscal situation of Dimensions Healthcare Systems, Inc. ("Dimensions Healthcare")
 8 and stands ready to continue an active and appropriate role in planning, funding, and overseeing
 9 appropriate corrective action in the County's healthcare delivery; and

10 WHEREAS, Maryland Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. and County Executive Jack B.
 11 Johnson negotiated and executed a Memorandum of Understanding dated February 20, 2004,
 12 which Memorandum of Understanding was amended on April 19, 2004, to formulate a Financial
 13 Action Plan and provide additional oversight for Dimensions Healthcare in an effort to preserve
 14 the financially strapped Prince George's Hospital Center; and

15 WHEREAS, the Memorandum of Understanding, as amended, provides for the
 16 appropriation of \$5 Million by the County in Fiscal Year 2005 and for the engagement of a
 17 management consultant to develop and implement a Recovery/Restructuring Plan; and

18 WHEREAS, the County Council has determined that the funds appropriated in Fiscal Year
 19 2005 Budget should be subject to certain conditions and restrictions to ensure that public policy
 20 priorities of the County are afforded appropriate consideration.

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,

1 Maryland, that the following conditions shall attach and apply to the appropriation in the Non-
2 Departmental, Grants and Transfer Payments of \$5 Million for Dimensions Healthcare Systems,
3 Inc.:

4 A. No portion of the funds appropriated may be used for funding pension obligations;

5 B. \$150,000 of the funds appropriated shall be used for the Cora B. Woods Senior Health
6 Center; and

7 C. Not more than \$2 Million may be used for the hiring of the management consultant
8 identified in the Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the State dated
9 February 20, 2004, as amended, to provide and implement the Recovery/Restructuring Plan.

10 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that in accordance with the provisions of
11 Section 317 of the Charter, the County Council hereby declares that a public emergency exists
12 affecting the public health, safety, and welfare; said emergency being emergency being the need
13 to provide funding to Dimensions Healthcare in order to support the continuation of essential
14 health services for the citizens and residents of Prince George's County. As the largest provider
15 of inpatient and emergency services, Dimensions Healthcare is a cornerstone in the health care
16 system in the County. Access to quality health care for the citizens and residents of the County
17 depends on the continuation of Dimensions Healthcare services. For the past several years,
18 Dimensions Healthcare has been facing serious financial difficulties resulting in significant
19 operating losses. County funding in Fiscal Year 2005, in the amount of \$5,000,000 is necessary
20 to assist Dimensions Healthcare in funding vital short-term operating needs that could affect
21 access to care.

22 SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect on the date it
23 becomes law.

Adopted this 22nd day of June, 2004, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the full County Council.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Tony Knotts
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Jack B. Johnson
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.