

Existing law (R.S. 15:824) provides that an inmate who is not institutionalized in a state corrections facility because of a lack of facilities under the control of the department can be held in a parish jail.

Prior law provided that the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) shall reimburse only the cost of extraordinary medical expenses incurred in emergency circumstances when the health of the inmate requires the use of the closest services available.

New law, with regard to parish prisoners, requires the state to reimburse the appropriate authority for costs incurred in obtaining medical care for inmates, including the payment of all costs when hospitalization is required, when the following occur:

- (1) The governor declares by executive order or proclamation pursuant to the provisions of the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act (R.S. 29:721 et seq.) a disaster or emergency encompassing the parish prison.
- (2) The Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College declares that the state hospital operated as part of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, which typically provides the medical care to inmates in that parish, has been rendered inoperable and is unable to provide medical treatment to those inmates.

New law, under the same two conditions, requires DPS&C, subject to appropriation by the legislature, to reimburse the cost of medical care incurred to the sheriff or governing authority of the parish when a state inmate in parish custody requires hospitalization.

Effective upon signature of governor (December 6, 2005).

(Amends R.S. 15:824(B)(1)(b); Adds R.S. 15:713)