

Expansion in Place

1. Section 44-7-130 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately numbered item to read:

“() ‘Health system’ means a person that has common ownership and control over four or more hospitals located in South Carolina, of which one of the hospitals in the health system must have a Level I Trauma Center designation recognized by the Department and three of the hospitals must each have not less than two hundred licensed general acute hospital beds.”

2. Section 44-7-170(A) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 278 of 2010, is further amended to read:

“(A) The following are exempt from the Certificate of Need review:

...

(5) a capital expenditure by or on behalf of a health care facility (i) to expand existing health services and associated equipment, other than those services described in this Section 44-7-170(A)(4), at the same location where the health care facility was awarded a Certificate of Need for the services and associated equipment proposed to be expanded, and (ii) to add a health service and associated equipment, other than those services described in this Section 44-7-170(A)(4), at a health care facility within a health system where any health facility within the health system was awarded a Certificate of Need for the services proposed to be added and the location of the health care facility adding the services is within a twenty mile radius of the location of the health system's health care facility where a Certificate of Need for the service has been approved.”

OR

(5) a capital expenditure by or on behalf of a health care facility to expand open heart surgery units or diagnostic or comprehensive cardiac catheterization laboratories for which a Certificate of Need previously has been awarded at the same site where such services are proposed to be expanded or the expansion of such services at another site where a health care facility within a health system is located if the health system was previously awarded a Certificate of Need for the services at a site which is within a twenty mile radius of the site where the health care facility within the health system was previously awarded a Certificate of Need.”