

**261.21 HOSPITALIZATION FOR INDIGENT PERSONS.**

Subdivision 1. **In county or elsewhere.** The county board of any county in this state is hereby authorized to provide for the hospitalization in hospitals within the county or elsewhere of indigent residents of such county who are afflicted with a malady, injury, deformity, or ailment of a nature which can probably be remedied by hospitalization and who are unable financially to secure and pay for such hospitalization or, in the case of an unemancipated minor, whose parent, guardian, trustee, or other person having lawful custody of the minor, as the case may be, is unable to secure or provide such hospitalization.

Subd. 2. **Free choice of hospital.** An indigent person eligible to receive care under this section shall have free choice in the selection of a hospital for the delivery of medical care.

**History:** (3164-19) 1935 c 359 s 1; 1941 c 473 s 1; 1971 c 257 s 1; 1975 c 437 art 2 s 9; 1976 c 186 s 2; 1986 c 444