

BILL

No. 630

The Public Health Care Transparency and Accountability Act

(Assented to _____)

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows:

Short title

1 *The Public Health Care Transparency and Accountability Act.*

Purpose

2 The purpose of this Act is to:

- (a) promote transparency and accountability in the expenditure of public funds for privately delivered or privately operated health services;
- (b) ensure public access to information respecting contracts funded in whole or in part by public money;
- (c) strengthen public oversight of agreements involving private health service delivery, staffing, infrastructure, and long-term care operations; and
- (d) support evidence-based evaluation of whether contracted health services provide value for money and improve patient outcomes.

Definitions

3 In this Act:

- (a) “**agency staffing contract**” means an agreement for the provision of nurses, physicians, allied health professionals, or other health care workers through a third-party staffing agency;
- (b) “**covered contract**” means a contract, agreement, memorandum of understanding, lease, operating agreement, partnership agreement, or procurement arrangement described in section 4;
- (c) “**minister**” means the member of the Executive Council to whom for the time being the administration of this Act is assigned;
- (d) “**private operator**” means a corporation, partnership, or organization, that provides health services, staffing, operations, infrastructure, management, or care funded in whole or in part with public money;
- (e) “**public-private partnership**” or “**P3**” means an arrangement whereby a private entity finances, designs, builds, owns, operates, maintains, or manages a publicly funded health facility or service;
- (f) “**value-for-money review**” means an independent assessment of the costs, outcomes, risks, liabilities, and effectiveness of a covered contract compared to public delivery alternatives.

Application

4 This Act applies to all publicly funded contracts respecting:

- (a) private surgical clinics;
- (b) diagnostic and laboratory services;
- (c) addictions treatment;
- (d) agency nursing and travel nursing services;
- (e) contracted clinical services;
- (f) contracted staffing in a healthcare facilities;
- (g) privately operated long-term care facilities;
- (h) public-private partnership health infrastructure projects;
- (i) outsourced management or administrative services relating to health care delivery;
- (j) health human resource recruitment contracts; and
- (k) any prescribed class of agreement established by regulation.

Public Registry

5(1) The minister shall establish and maintain a publicly accessible online registry containing information respecting all covered contracts.

(2) The following information must be published in the registry within 30 days after a covered contract is executed:

- (a) the name of the private operator;
- (b) the value of the contract;
- (c) the procurement method used;
- (d) the duration and renewal terms of the contract;
- (e) performance measures and service obligations;
- (f) any amendments to the contract; and
- (g) any penalties, incentives, or bonus provisions.

Publication of Contracts

6(1) Subject to subsection (2), the full text of every covered contract must be made publicly available on the registry established pursuant to section 5.

(2) Information may only be redacted where necessary to protect:

- (a) personal information;
- (b) matters relating to public safety or cybersecurity; or
- (c) proprietary technical information where disclosure would result in demonstrable commercial harm substantially outweighing the public interest in disclosure.

(3) For greater certainty, the following information shall not be withheld from public disclosure:

- (a) total contract values;
- (b) payment structures;
- (c) staffing rates;
- (d) service obligations;
- (e) public liabilities or guarantees;
- (f) performance standards; or
- (g) termination provisions.

Accountability and Oversight

7(1) The Provincial Auditor shall conduct a value-for-money review for:

- (a) every covered contract with a total estimated value exceeding \$10 million;
- (b) every public-private partnership agreement respecting health infrastructure or service delivery;
- (c) every contract for the operation of a privately operated long-term care facility funded in whole or in part with public money; and
- (d) any prescribed class of agreement established by regulation.

(2) A review pursuant to subsection (1) must commence within 12 months after execution of the contract.

(3) A review conducted pursuant to this section must examine:

- (a) financial costs and liabilities;
- (b) patient care outcomes;
- (c) continuity and quality of care;
- (d) impacts on recruitment and retention within the public health system;
- (e) service accessibility and wait times;
- (f) contract compliance; and
- (g) any other prescribed matter.

(4) The results of every review conducted pursuant to this section must be tabled in the Legislative Assembly and made publicly available.

(5) Every review completed pursuant to this section must be tabled in the Legislative Assembly within 15 sitting days after completion or as soon as practicable.

Annual Report

8(1) The minister shall prepare and table an annual report respecting publicly funded private health service delivery in Saskatchewan.

- (2) The report must include:
- (a) total annual spending under covered contracts;
 - (b) trends in agency staffing expenditures;
 - (c) comparative public-sector delivery costs where available;
 - (d) wait-time and service outcome data;
 - (e) staffing vacancy and retention data; and
 - (f) any additional prescribed information.

Coming into force

9 Act comes into force on Assent.

SECOND SESSION

Thirtieth Legislature

SASKATCHEWAN

BILL

No. 630

The Public Health Care Transparency and Accountability Act

Received and read the

First time

Second time

Third time

And Passed

Ms. Meara Conway

Printed under the authority of
The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
of Saskatchewan
2026