

**AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER AMENDMENTS**

2001 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Sponsor: Peter C. Knudson**

**This act modifies the Health Code to remove the Department of Health from the responsibility of establishing area health education centers. The act establishes five regional centers and makes technical changes. The act appropriates \$300,000 from the General Fund for fiscal year 2001-02 to the University of Utah Health Science Center to expand the Area Health Education Center Program.**

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

AMENDS:

**26-9-3**, as enacted by Chapter 321, Laws of Utah 1995

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **26-9-3** is amended to read:

**26-9-3. Rural health development initiatives.**

(1) (a) The University of Utah Health Science Center [~~and the department~~] shall use any appropriations it receives for developing area health education centers to establish and maintain an area health education center program in accordance with this section.

(b) Implementation and execution of the area health education center program is contingent upon appropriations from the Legislature.

(2) (a) The area health education [~~centers~~] center program shall consist of a central program office[, ~~and one or more area health education centers established throughout the state.~~ The purpose of the program is to establish and operate a statewide, decentralized, regional health professions and training program, with special emphasis on addressing rural education and training needs] at the University of Utah Health Science Center. The program office shall establish and operate a statewide, decentralized, regional program with emphasis on addressing rural health professions workforce education and training needs.

(b) The area health education center program shall have five regional centers serving the following geographic areas:

- (i) the northern center serving Box Elder, Cache, Rich, Weber, and Morgan counties;
- (ii) the crossroads center serving Salt Lake, Wasatch, Summit, Tooele, Utah, and Davis counties;
- (iii) the central center serving Juab, Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, and Wayne counties;
- (iv) the eastern center serving Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, Grand, San Juan, and Uintah counties; and
- (v) the southwest center serving Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, and Washington counties.

~~[(3) The University of Utah Health Sciences Center is responsible for the development and maintenance of the area health education centers program. The department shall provide assistance to the University of Utah Health Sciences Center for the development and maintenance of the area health education centers program.]~~

~~[(4)] (3) The area health education [centers] center program shall attempt to acquire funding from state, local, federal, and private sources.~~

~~[(5)] (4) Each area health education center shall provide community-based health professions education programming for [a defined] the geographic area described in Subsection (2)(b) of this section.~~

**Section 2. Appropriation.**

(1) There is appropriated from the General Fund for fiscal year 2001-02 only, \$300,000 to the University of Utah Health Science Center.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that this appropriation shall be used for the Area Health Education Center program established in Section 26-9-3.