

“Did you see us in the news?”



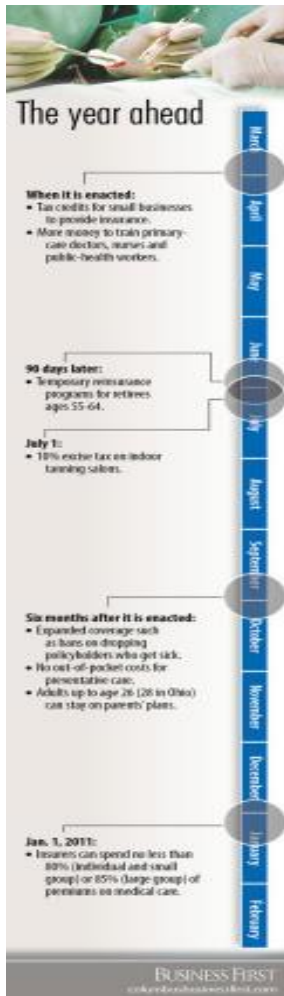
Health-care law aims to move doors of entry

Incentives target patients' use of health-care system

Business First of Columbus - by [Carrie Ghose](#) Friday March 26, 2010

Doc-owned hospitals?

The package also takes a long-expected swat at physician-owned hospitals, making it difficult to expand if they don't have a contract with Medicare by the end of this year. And it will be virtually impossible for new ones to open without being able to accept Medicare patients, according to Cleveland law firm McDonald Hopkins LLC.



The only such facility in Central Ohio, the Medical Center of Newark, opened a larger expansion than needed two years ago to get ready, said James Havens, a Columbus attorney among its partners. Just 24 of its 33 licensed beds are open, giving it room to grow.

A dormant idea for a proposed \$100 million full-service hospital in the Columbus area is probably dead. A group of Central Ohio physicians working with Surgical Development Partners LLC, a Nashville, Tenn.-area developer, had looked at the former Germain Amphitheater site.

But the initial investors could not attract enough partners to finance the project, so the deal was called off a year ago, said CEO Edward Alexander.

“The not-for-profit systems (in Central Ohio) were so powerful, we really could not garner the physician support in a broad sense,” he said.

Anticipating the federal bill, the company no longer seeks physicians as direct investors in hospital projects.