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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to trauma regions; amending s. 395.4015, F.S.; requiring that trauma region boundaries be coterminous with the boundaries of the regional domestic security task forces; providing an exception; removing other requirements for such boundaries; deleting the authority to accept state trauma system plan components developed by other entities; amending s. 395.402, F.S.; providing additional legislative intent with respect to trauma service areas; providing a treatment capacity for certain trauma centers; providing that current trauma service areas shall be used until the Department of Health completes an assessment of the trauma system; requiring a report; providing guidelines for such assessment; requiring annual review; amending s. 395.40, F.S.; requiring an annual update of the state trauma system plan; amending s. 395.403, F.S.; correcting a cross reference; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 395.4015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

395.4015 State regional trauma planning; trauma regions.--

(1) The department shall establish a state trauma system plan. As part of the state trauma system plan, the department shall establish trauma regions that which cover all geographical areas of the state and have boundaries that are coterminous with the boundaries of the regional domestic security task forces

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30 established under s. 943.0312. However, the delivery of trauma  
 31 services by or in coordination with a trauma agency established  
 32 before July 1, 2004, may continue in accordance with any public  
 33 or private agreements and operational procedures entered into as  
 34 provided in s. 395.401. These regions may serve as the basis for  
 35 the development of department-approved local or regional trauma  
 36 plans. ~~The department shall base its definition of the regions~~  
 37 ~~upon:~~

38 ~~(a) Geographical considerations so as to ensure rapid~~  
 39 ~~access to trauma care by patients;~~

40 ~~(b) Historical patterns of patient referral and transfer~~  
 41 ~~in an area;~~

42 ~~(c) Inventories of available trauma care resources;~~

43 ~~(d) Predicted population growth characteristics;~~

44 ~~(e) Transportation capabilities, including ground and air~~  
 45 ~~transport;~~

46 ~~(f) Medically appropriate ground and air travel times; and~~

47 ~~(g) Other appropriate criteria.~~

48 ~~(2) The department shall develop trauma systems plans for~~  
 49 ~~the department-defined trauma regions which include at a minimum~~  
 50 ~~the following components:~~

51 ~~(a) An assessment of current and future trauma care needs~~  
 52 ~~of the population, based upon incidence rates and acuity~~  
 53 ~~indicators developed by the department, as well as other~~  
 54 ~~relevant characteristics of the region.~~

55 ~~(b) The organizational structure of the regional trauma~~  
 56 ~~system, including the identification of local trauma agency~~  
 57 ~~service areas within the region.~~

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58 ~~(c) Prehospital care management guidelines for triage and~~  
59 ~~transportation of trauma cases.~~

60 ~~(d) Flow patterns of trauma cases and transportation~~  
61 ~~system design and resources, including air transportation~~  
62 ~~services, provision for interfacility trauma transfer, and the~~  
63 ~~prehospital transportation of trauma victims. The department~~  
64 ~~shall plan for the development of a system of transportation of~~  
65 ~~trauma alert victims to trauma centers where the distance or~~  
66 ~~time to a trauma center or transportation resources diminish~~  
67 ~~access by trauma alert victims.~~

68 ~~(e) The current and projected number, acuity level, and~~  
69 ~~geographic location of trauma cases expected so as to assure~~  
70 ~~that the assessed current and future trauma care needs of the~~  
71 ~~population are adequately met and that state-sponsored trauma~~  
72 ~~centers will maintain the volume of cases sufficient to provide~~  
73 ~~quality care to trauma cases referred to them.~~

74 ~~(f) The availability of qualified health professionals,~~  
75 ~~including physicians and surgeons, capable of staffing trauma~~  
76 ~~centers to the level of current and future assessed needs.~~

77 ~~(g) Data collection regarding system operation and patient~~  
78 ~~outcome, as well as the number, type, and generalized locations~~  
79 ~~of state-sponsored trauma centers needed to meet the needs of~~  
80 ~~the population.~~

81 ~~(h) Periodic performance evaluation of the trauma system~~  
82 ~~and its components.~~

83 ~~(i) The type and extent of air transport services~~  
84 ~~available and needed in each region.~~

85 ~~(j) Public information and education about the trauma~~  
86 ~~system.~~

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87 ~~(k) Emergency medical services communication system usage~~  
 88 ~~and dispatching.~~

89 ~~(l) The coordination and integration between the trauma~~  
 90 ~~centers and other health care facilities which may provide~~  
 91 ~~services to trauma victims.~~

92 ~~(m) Medical control and accountability.~~

93 ~~(n) Quality management and system evaluation.~~

94 (2)~~(3)~~ The department shall consider the advice and  
 95 recommendations of any affected local or regional trauma agency  
 96 in developing the state trauma systems plan. ~~The department may,~~  
 97 ~~in lieu of specific regional components of its own plan, accept~~  
 98 ~~components developed by local or regional trauma agencies.~~

99 (3)~~(4)~~ The department shall use the state trauma system  
 100 plan as the basis for establishing a statewide inclusive trauma  
 101 system.

102 Section 2. Section 395.402, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 103 to read:

104 395.402 Trauma service areas; number and location of  
 105 trauma centers.--

106 (1) The Legislature recognizes the need for a statewide,  
 107 cohesive, uniform, and integrated trauma system. Within the  
 108 trauma service areas, that Level I and Level II trauma centers  
 109 shall ~~should~~ each be capable of annually treating a minimum of  
 110 1,000 and 500 patients, respectively, with an injury severity  
 111 score (ISS) of 9 or greater. Level II trauma centers in counties  
 112 with a population of more than 500,000 shall have the capacity  
 113 to care for a minimum of 1,000 patients per year. Further, the  
 114 ~~Legislature finds that, based on the numbers and locations of~~  
 115 ~~trauma victims with these injury severity scores, there should~~

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116 ~~be 19 trauma service areas in the state, and, at a minimum,~~  
 117 ~~there should be at least one trauma center in each service area.~~

118 ~~(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that, as a~~  
 119 ~~planning guideline, Level I and Level II trauma centers should~~  
 120 ~~generally each provide care annually to a minimum of 1,000 and~~  
 121 ~~500 patients, respectively. Level II trauma centers in counties~~  
 122 ~~of more than 500,000 population are expected to be able to care~~  
 123 ~~for 1,000 patients per year, as a planning guideline.~~

124 (2)(3) Trauma service areas as described in this section  
 125 are to be utilized until the Department of Health completes an  
 126 assessment of the trauma system and reports its findings to the  
 127 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House  
 128 of Representatives, and the substantive legislative committees.  
 129 The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2004. The  
 130 department shall review the existing trauma system and determine  
 131 whether it is effective in providing trauma care uniformly  
 132 throughout the state. The assessment shall:

133 (a) Consider aligning trauma service areas within the  
 134 trauma region boundaries as established in July 2004.

135 (b) Review the number and level of trauma centers needed  
 136 for each trauma service area to provide a statewide integrated  
 137 trauma system.

138 (c) Establish criteria for determining the number and  
 139 level of trauma centers needed to serve the population in a  
 140 defined trauma service area or region.

141 (d) Consider including a criteria within trauma center  
 142 verification standards based upon the number of trauma victims  
 143 served within a service area.

144 (e) Review the Regional Domestic Security Task Force

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145 structure and determine whether integrating the trauma system  
 146 planning with interagency regional emergency and disaster  
 147 planning efforts is feasible and identify any duplication of  
 148 efforts between the two entities.

149 (3) In conducting this assessment and subsequent annual  
 150 reviews, the department shall consider:

151 (a) The recommendations made as part of the regional  
 152 trauma system plans submitted by regional trauma agencies.

153 (b) Stakeholder recommendations.

154 (c) The geographical composition of an area to ensure  
 155 rapid access to trauma care by patients.

156 (d) Historical patterns of patient referral and transfer  
 157 in an area.

158 (e) Inventories of available trauma care resources,  
 159 including professional medical staff.

160 (f) Population growth characteristics.

161 (g) Transportation capabilities, including ground and air  
 162 transport.

163 (h) Medically appropriate ground and air travel times.

164 (i) Recommendations of the Regional Domestic Security Task  
 165 Force.

166 (j) The actual number of trauma victims currently being  
 167 served by each trauma center.

168 (k) Other appropriate criteria.

169 (4) Annually thereafter, ~~used~~ the department shall  
 170 periodically review the assignment of the 67 counties to trauma  
 171 service areas, in addition to the requirements of paragraphs  
 172 (2)(b)-(e) and subsection (3). ~~County~~ These assignments are made  
 173 for the purpose of developing a system of trauma centers.

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174 Revisions made by the department shall ~~should~~ take into  
 175 consideration the recommendations made as part of the regional  
 176 trauma system plans approved by the department, and ~~as well as~~  
 177 the recommendations made as part of the state trauma system  
 178 plan. In cases where a trauma service area is located within the  
 179 boundaries of more than one trauma region, the trauma service  
 180 area's needs, response capability, and system requirements shall  
 181 be considered by each trauma region served by that trauma  
 182 service area in its regional system plan ~~These areas must, at a~~  
 183 ~~minimum, be reviewed in the year 2000 and every 5 years~~  
 184 ~~thereafter.~~ Until the department completes the December 2004  
 185 assessment ~~its initial review~~, the assignment of counties shall  
 186 remain as established in this section ~~pursuant to chapter 90-~~  
 187 ~~284, Laws of Florida.~~

188 (a) The following trauma service areas are hereby  
 189 established:

190 1. Trauma service area 1 shall consist of Escambia,  
 191 Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton Counties.

192 2. Trauma service area 2 shall consist of Bay, Gulf,  
 193 Holmes, and Washington Counties.

194 3. Trauma service area 3 shall consist of Calhoun,  
 195 Franklin, Gadsden, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison,  
 196 Taylor, and Wakulla Counties.

197 4. Trauma service area 4 shall consist of Alachua,  
 198 Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy,  
 199 Putnam, Suwannee, and Union Counties.

200 5. Trauma service area 5 shall consist of Baker, Clay,  
 201 Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns Counties.

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- 202           6. Trauma service area 6 shall consist of Citrus,  
 203           Hernando, and Marion Counties.
- 204           7. Trauma service area 7 shall consist of Flagler and  
 205           Volusia Counties.
- 206           8. Trauma service area 8 shall consist of Lake, Orange,  
 207           Osceola, Seminole, and Sumter Counties.
- 208           9. Trauma service area 9 shall consist of Pasco and  
 209           Pinellas Counties.
- 210           10. Trauma service area 10 shall consist of Hillsborough  
 211           County.
- 212           11. Trauma service area 11 shall consist of Hardee,  
 213           Highlands, and Polk Counties.
- 214           12. Trauma service area 12 shall consist of Brevard and  
 215           Indian River Counties.
- 216           13. Trauma service area 13 shall consist of DeSoto,  
 217           Manatee, and Sarasota Counties.
- 218           14. Trauma service area 14 shall consist of Martin,  
 219           Okeechobee, and St. Lucie Counties.
- 220           15. Trauma service area 15 shall consist of Charlotte,  
 221           Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties.
- 222           16. Trauma service area 16 shall consist of Palm Beach  
 223           County.
- 224           17. Trauma service area 17 shall consist of Collier  
 225           County.
- 226           18. Trauma service area 18 shall consist of Broward  
 227           County.
- 228           19. Trauma service area 19 shall consist of Dade and  
 229           Monroe Counties.



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230 (b) Each trauma service area should have at least one  
 231 Level I or Level II trauma center. The department shall  
 232 allocate, by rule, the number of trauma centers needed for each  
 233 trauma service area.

234 (c) There shall be no more than a total of 44 state-  
 235 sponsored trauma centers in the state.

236 Section 3. Subsection (6) of section 395.40, Florida  
 237 Statutes, is amended to read:

238 395.40 Legislative findings and intent.--

239 (6) Furthermore, the Legislature encourages the department  
 240 to actively foster the provision of trauma care and serve as a  
 241 catalyst for improvements in the process and outcome of the  
 242 provision of trauma care in an inclusive trauma system. Among  
 243 other considerations, the department is required ~~encouraged~~ to:

244 (a) Promote the development of at least one trauma center  
 245 in every trauma service area.

246 (b) Promote the development of a trauma agency for each  
 247 trauma region.

248 (c) Update the state trauma system plan by December 2004  
 249 ~~2000~~ and at least annually ~~every 5th year~~ thereafter.

250 Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section  
 251 395.403, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252 395.403 Reimbursement of state-sponsored trauma centers.--

253 (6)(a) To ensure a fair distribution of funds appropriated  
 254 for state-sponsored trauma centers and to ensure that no state-  
 255 sponsored trauma center gains an unfair advantage due solely to  
 256 its ability to bill more quickly than another state-sponsored  
 257 trauma center, the total amount of state funds appropriated in  
 258 the General Appropriations Act for this section shall be divided

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259 into 19 trauma fund accounts with an account for each service  
 260 area established in s. 395.402(2)~~(3)~~. The amount of funds  
 261 distributed to a service area shall be based on the following  
 262 formula:

$$\text{SAAA} = \frac{\text{SATD}}{\text{TTD}} \times \text{TA}$$

263  
 264 where:

265 SAAA = service area appropriation amount.

266 SATD = uncompensated service area trauma days with ISS  
 267 score of 9 or greater.

268 TTD = uncompensated total trauma days with ISS score of 9  
 269 or greater for all 19 service areas.

270 TA = total dollars appropriated for state-sponsored trauma  
 271 centers.

272 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.