

Bill No. SB 1938

Barcode 662324

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Health Regulation (Siplin) recommended the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Emergency medical services providers; triage and transportation of ST elevation myocardial infarction victims to a percutaneous intervention center or an open-heart surgery program; definitions.--

(1)(a) The Legislature finds that rapid identification and treatment of serious heart attacks known as ST elevation myocardial infarction according to the latest evidence-based standards can significantly improve outcomes by reducing death and disability by rapidly restoring blood flow to the heart.

(b) The Legislature further finds that a strong emergency system to support survival from life-threatening heart attacks is needed in our communities in order to treat victims in a timely manner and to improve the overall care of heart attack victims.

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1 (c) Therefore, the Legislature intends to establish a
2 statewide emergency cardiac system to help improve outcomes
3 for individuals suffering from a life-threatening heart
4 attack.

5 (2) As used in this section, the term:

6 (a) "Agency" means the Agency for Health Care
7 Administration.

8 (b) "Department" means the Department of Health.

9 (c) "Open-heart surgery program" means an open-heart
10 surgery program licensed by the agency under s. 403.0361(3),
11 Florida Statutes.

12 (d) "Percutaneous intervention center" means a
13 provider of adult interventional cardiology services licensed
14 by the agency under s. 408.0361, Florida Statutes.

15 (2) By December 1, 2007, and by June 1 of each year
16 thereafter the agency shall post on its website a list of the
17 percutaneous intervention centers and the open-heart surgery
18 programs that are licensed by the agency.

19 (3) By June 1, 2008, or 6 months after the agency
20 adopts a rule governing certification of percutaneous
21 intervention centers under s. 408.036(3)(o), Florida Statutes,
22 whichever is later, and by June 1 of each year thereafter, the
23 department shall send a list of the names and addresses of
24 each percutaneous intervention center and open-heart surgery
25 program that is licensed by the agency to each licensed
26 emergency medical services provider and emergency medical
27 services director in the state.

28 (4) The department shall develop sample cardiac triage
29 assessment criteria. The department must post this sample
30 assessment criteria on its website and provide a copy of the
31 assessment criteria to each licensed emergency medical

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1 services provider and emergency medical services director no
 2 later than December 1, 2008. Each licensed medical services
 3 provider must use cardiac triage assessment criteria that are
 4 substantially similar to the sample cardiac triage assessment
 5 criteria provided by the department under this subsection.

6 (5) The medical director of each licensed emergency
 7 medical services provider shall develop and implement
 8 assessment, treatment, and transportation protocols for
 9 cardiac patients and employ those protocols to assess, treat,
 10 and transport ST elevation myocardial infarction patients to
 11 the most appropriate hospital. Such protocols may include use
 12 of a community plan to address transport of cardiac patients
 13 to appropriate facilities in a manner that addresses
 14 community-specific resources and needs.

15 (6) The department shall develop and provide technical
 16 support, equipment recommendations, and necessary training for
 17 effective identification of acute ST elevation myocardial
 18 infarction patients to each licensed emergency medical
 19 services provider and emergency medical services director. The
 20 department shall model the sample cardiac triage assessment
 21 criteria on the American Heart Association's advanced
 22 cardiovascular life support chest pain algorithm for
 23 prehospital assessment, triage, and treatment of patients with
 24 suspected ST elevation myocardial infarction or a
 25 substantially similar program or a program with evidence-based
 26 guidelines. The department shall conduct a biennial survey of
 27 all applicable licensed emergency medical services providers
 28 to develop an inventory of their equipment and identify their
 29 equipment needs, their training requirements, and their
 30 performance regarding the practical application of protocols
 31 and the identification of acute ST elevation myocardial

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1 infarction in the field. The department shall report its
 2 survey findings and provide a copy of the survey to emergency
 3 medical services providers, emergency medical services
 4 directors, the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council,
 5 and other stakeholders.

6 (7) The department is encouraged to identify and
 7 provide opportunities, partnerships, and resources to secure
 8 appropriate equipment for identification of ST elevation
 9 myocardial infarction in the field to all licensed emergency
 10 medical service providers.

11 (8) After implementation of the assessment criteria,
 12 the department shall convene stakeholders at least once a
 13 year, if necessary, to facilitate the sharing of experiences
 14 and best practices. The best practices shall be made available
 15 on the department's website.

16 (9) Each emergency medical services provider licensed
 17 under chapter 401, Florida Statutes, must comply with this
 18 section by July 1, 2009, or 6 months after the date it
 19 receives the list of percutaneous intervention centers sent
 20 pursuant to subsection (3), whichever is later.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause

and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to cardiology services;

providing legislative findings and intent;

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1 providing definitions; requiring the Department
2 of Health to post and update a list of
3 percutaneous intervention centers and
4 open-heart surgery programs on its website;
5 requiring the department to send a list of such
6 centers and programs to emergency medical
7 services providers and emergency medical
8 services directors in the state; directing the
9 department to develop and distribute sample
10 cardiac triage assessment criteria; requiring
11 licensed emergency medical services providers
12 to use similar assessment criteria; requiring
13 the director of each emergency medical services
14 provider to develop and use certain specified
15 protocols; providing duties of the department;
16 requiring a report; providing for meetings;
17 requiring compliance by a certain date;
18 providing an effective date.

19
20 WHEREAS, every year, approximately 24,000 people in
21 this state suffer a life-threatening heart attack, one-third
22 of whom die within 24 hours after the attack, and

23 WHEREAS, fewer than 20 percent of heart attack victims
24 receive emergency angioplasty to open blocked arteries, and

25 WHEREAS, studies have shown that individuals suffering
26 a life-threatening heart attack have better outcomes if they
27 receive emergency angioplasty, and

28 WHEREAS, studies have shown that opening a blocked
29 coronary artery with emergency angioplasty within recommended
30 timeframes can effectively prevent or significantly minimize
31 permanent damage to the heart, and

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1 WHEREAS, even fewer patients receive the procedure
2 within the timeframe recommended by the American Heart
3 Association, and

4 WHEREAS, damage to the heart muscle can result in
5 death, congestive heart failure, atrial fibrillation, and
6 other chronic diseases of the heart, and

7 WHEREAS, organizations such as the American Heart
8 Association, the American College of Cardiology, and the
9 Florida College of Emergency Physicians recommend deploying
10 protocols and systems to help ensure that people suffering
11 from a life-threatening heart attack receive the latest
12 evidence-based care, such as emergency angioplasty, within
13 recommended timeframes, and

14 WHEREAS, Florida's trauma services system and emergency
15 stroke treatment system have dramatically improved the care
16 provided for individuals suffering from a traumatic injury or
17 a stroke, and

18 WHEREAS, a statewide emergency cardiac system can help
19 ensure that people suffering from a life-threatening heart
20 attack will receive the latest evidence-based care within
21 recommended timeframes, NOW, THEREFORE,

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