

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to health care; providing legislative findings; permitting a hospital that has operated as a Level I, Level II, or pediatric trauma center for a specified period to continue operating at that trauma center level under certain conditions, notwithstanding any other provision of law; making a hospital that complies with such requirements eligible for renewal of its 7-year approval period under s. 395.4025(6), F.S.; requiring a hospital that obtains a trauma center consultation report following the site visit to provide the report to the Department of Health; requiring the department to use the trauma center consultation reports in any assessment of the state trauma system; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. The Legislature finds that an integrated, comprehensive, and superior quality trauma system is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Florida and visitors to this state. The Legislature further finds that each trauma center operating in the state is an integral part of the trauma system and fulfills a critical need for trauma care in the area in which it is located. A disruption in the operational status of a trauma center may disrupt the

27 availability of needed trauma services for residents of and
28 visitors to Florida. The Legislature finds that all currently
29 operating trauma centers in the state are contributing to an
30 inclusive trauma system and are delivering needed trauma
31 services so that optimal trauma care is available and accessible
32 throughout the state.

33 Section 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
34 hospital that has operated continuously as a Level I, Level II,
35 or pediatric trauma center for a consecutive 12-month period
36 after the enactment of chapter 2004-259, Laws of Florida,
37 remains operational as of the effective date of this act, and
38 submits an application for a site visit by the American College
39 of Surgeons Committee on Trauma on or before April 1, 2015, for
40 the purpose of obtaining a trauma center consultation report,
41 may continue to operate at the same trauma center level as a
42 verified Level I, Level II, or pediatric trauma center until the
43 approval period in s. 395.4025(6), Florida Statutes, expires as
44 long as the hospital continues to meet the other requirements of
45 s. 395.4025(6), Florida Statutes, related to trauma center
46 standards and patient outcomes. A hospital that meets the
47 requirements of this section shall be eligible for renewal of
48 its 7-year approval period pursuant to s. 395.4025(6), Florida
49 Statutes.

50 Section 3. Each hospital that obtains a trauma center
51 consultation report from the American College of Surgeons
52 Committee on Trauma shall provide a copy of the report to the

CS/HB 7113

2014

53 Department of Health. The department shall use the report in any
54 assessment of the state trauma system.

55 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.