

By Senator Bean

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to infectious disease control;
3 amending s. 381.0011, F.S.; providing duties of the
4 Department of Health relating to the dissemination of
5 information regarding treatment-resistant bacterial
6 infections; providing for the establishment of a
7 research panel and an interagency task force;
8 requiring the department to adopt and enforce minimum
9 standards for infection control practices in certain
10 licensed facilities; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Section 381.0011, Florida Statutes, is amended
15 to read:

16 381.0011 Duties and powers of the Department of Health.—It
17 is the duty of the Department of Health to:

18 (1) Assess the public health status and needs of the state.

19 (2) Administer and enforce laws and rules relating to
20 sanitation, control of infectious ~~communicable~~ diseases,
21 illnesses and hazards to health among humans and from animals to
22 humans, and the general health of the people of the state.

23 (3) Coordinate with federal, state, and local officials for
24 the prevention and suppression of infectious ~~communicable~~ and
25 other diseases, illnesses, injuries, and hazards to human
26 health.

27 (4) Provide for a thorough investigation and study of the
28 incidence, causes, modes of propagation and transmission, and
29 means of prevention, control, and cure of diseases, illnesses,

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30 and hazards to human health.

31 (5) Provide for the dissemination of information to the
32 public relating ~~relative~~ to the prevention, control, and cure of
33 diseases, illnesses, and hazards to human health, including
34 information reported by licensed health care practitioners under
35 subsection (6).

36 (6) Establish an Internet website for health care
37 practitioners licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, or
38 chapter 464 to report the presence of confirmed treatment-
39 resistant bacterial infections. The website shall require the
40 practitioner to enter his or her license number, the location of
41 the confirmed treatment-resistant bacterial infection, and the
42 type of bacterial infection. The department shall adopt rules
43 establishing a method to ensure that only one report per
44 confirmed case is displayed on the publicly accessible part of
45 the website. The department shall adopt rules requiring that the
46 identity of the practitioner not be displayed on the publicly
47 accessible part of the website and that the report not disclose
48 protected health information but only document the presence,
49 type, and location of a confirmed treatment-resistant bacterial
50 infection.

51 ~~(7)(6)~~ Act as registrar of vital statistics.

52 ~~(8)(7)~~ Manage and coordinate emergency preparedness and
53 disaster response functions to: investigate and control the
54 spread of disease; coordinate the availability and staffing of
55 special needs shelters; support patient evacuation; ensure the
56 safety of food and drugs; provide critical incident stress
57 debriefing; and provide surveillance and control of
58 radiological, chemical, biological, and other environmental

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59 hazards.

60 (9) Establish a research panel composed of experts in the
61 field of treatment-resistant bacterial infections, which shall
62 make recommendations to state agencies regarding biomedical
63 research programs designed to improve treatment outcomes and
64 develop protocols to control the incidence of treatment-
65 resistant bacterial infections.

66 (10) Establish and lead an interagency task force that
67 includes representatives from health care providers, interested
68 trade associations, and other state agencies to:

69 (a) Identify emergency response protocols for facilities
70 licensed under part II of chapter 408 when an outbreak of a
71 treatment-resistant bacterial infection occurs in such a
72 facility.

73 (b) Establish a volunteer statewide emergency response team
74 to investigate, document, and report the presence and outbreak
75 of a treatment-resistant bacterial infection to the department
76 and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

77 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.