

By Senator Grimsley

21-00333-16

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to certificates of need for rural
3 hospitals; amending s. 395.6025, F.S.; revising the
4 criteria for exempting a rural hospital or the not-
5 for-profit operator of rural hospitals from the
6 requirement to obtain a certificate of need for the
7 construction of a new or replacement facility within
8 the primary service area; providing an effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Section 395.6025, Florida Statutes, is amended
13 to read:

14 395.6025 Rural hospital replacement facilities.-
15 Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 408.036, a hospital defined
16 as a statutory rural hospital in accordance with s. 395.602, or
17 a not-for-profit operator of rural hospitals, is not required to
18 obtain a certificate of need for the construction of a new
19 hospital located in a county with a population ~~of at least~~
20 ~~15,000 but no more than 18,000 and a density of less than~~ 100 ~~30~~
21 persons per square mile, or a replacement facility, provided
22 that the replacement, or new, facility is located within ~~10~~
23 ~~miles of the site of the currently licensed rural hospital and~~
24 ~~within~~ the current primary service area. As used in this
25 section, the term "service area" means the fewest number of zip
26 codes that account for 75 percent of the hospital's discharges
27 for the most recent 5-year period, based on information
28 available from the hospital inpatient discharge database in the
29 Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis at the

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30 Agency for Health Care Administration.

31 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.