

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to allocation of trauma centers;  
3           amending s. 395.402, F.S.; determining the need for a  
4           minimum number of Level I or Level II adult trauma  
5           centers in trauma service areas with certain  
6           population levels; authorizing the Department of  
7           Health to allocate additional trauma centers above the  
8           minimum number deemed necessary; requiring all Level  
9           I, Level II, and pediatric trauma centers with  
10          provisional approval, final approval, or verification  
11          from the department to count against the total number  
12          of trauma centers allocated statewide; amending s.  
13          395.4025, F.S.; determining the need for a minimum  
14          number of Level I or Level II adult trauma centers in  
15          trauma service areas with certain population levels;  
16          providing an effective date.

17  
18   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

19  
20           Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section  
21   395.402, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

22           395.402 Trauma service areas; number and location of  
23   trauma centers.—

24           (4) Annually thereafter, the department shall review the  
25   assignment of the 67 counties to trauma service areas, in

26 addition to the requirements of paragraphs (2) (b)-(g) and  
27 subsection (3). County assignments are made for the purpose of  
28 developing a system of trauma centers. Revisions made by the  
29 department shall take into consideration the recommendations  
30 made as part of the regional trauma system plans approved by the  
31 department and the recommendations made as part of the state  
32 trauma system plan. In cases where a trauma service area is  
33 located within the boundaries of more than one trauma region,  
34 the trauma service area's needs, response capability, and system  
35 requirements shall be considered by each trauma region served by  
36 that trauma service area in its regional system plan. Until the  
37 department completes the February 2005 assessment, the  
38 assignment of counties shall remain as established in this  
39 section.

40 (b)1. Each trauma service area should have at least one  
41 Level I or Level II trauma center. In any trauma service area in  
42 which the population is greater than 1.25 million, there is  
43 determined to be a need for a minimum of two Level I or Level II  
44 adult trauma centers, or a combination thereof. In any trauma  
45 service area in which the population is greater than 2.5  
46 million, there is determined to be a need for a minimum of four  
47 Level I or Level II adult trauma centers, or a combination  
48 thereof. The department shall allocate, by rule, the number of  
49 trauma centers needed for each trauma service area. The  
50 department is authorized to allocate in such rule additional

51 need for trauma centers above the minimum set forth in this  
52 subparagraph.

53 2. All Level I, Level II, and pediatric trauma centers  
54 that received notice from the department of provisional  
55 approval, final approval, or verification shall count against  
56 the statewide total number of trauma centers as provided in this  
57 section.

58 Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 395.4025, Florida  
59 Statutes, is amended to read:

60 395.4025 Trauma centers; selection; quality assurance;  
61 records.—

62 (5) Beginning October 1 of each year and ending no later  
63 than June 1 of the following year, a review team of out-of-state  
64 experts assembled by the department shall make onsite visits to  
65 all provisional trauma centers. The department shall develop a  
66 survey instrument to be used by the expert team of reviewers.  
67 The instrument shall include objective criteria and guidelines  
68 for reviewers based on existing trauma center standards such  
69 that all trauma centers are assessed equally. The survey  
70 instrument shall also include a uniform rating system that will  
71 be used by reviewers to indicate the degree of compliance of  
72 each trauma center with specific standards, and to indicate the  
73 quality of care provided by each trauma center as determined  
74 through an audit of patient charts. In addition, hospitals being  
75 considered as provisional trauma centers shall meet all the

76 requirements of a trauma center and shall be located in a trauma  
77 service area that has a need for such a trauma center. For  
78 purposes of this section, in any trauma service area in which  
79 the population is greater than 1.25 million, there is determined  
80 to be a need for a minimum of two Level I or Level II adult  
81 trauma centers, or a combination thereof. In any trauma service  
82 area in which the population is greater than 2.5 million, there  
83 is determined to be a need for a minimum of four Level I or  
84 Level II adult trauma centers, or a combination thereof.

85 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.