

**By** the Committees on Appropriations; and Health Policy; and  
Senators Powell, Passidomo, and Baxley

576-04165-17

20171406c2

1  
2 A bill to be entitled

3 An act relating to stroke centers; amending s.  
4 395.3038, F.S.; directing the Agency for Health Care  
5 Administration to include hospitals that meet the  
6 criteria for acute stroke ready centers on a list of  
7 stroke centers; creating s. 395.30381, F.S.; requiring  
8 the department to contract with a private entity to  
9 establish and maintain a statewide stroke registry,  
10 subject to an appropriation; requiring stroke centers  
11 to provide certain information to the statewide stroke  
12 registry; requiring the contracted entity to use a  
13 nationally recognized platform to collect data;  
14 requiring the contracted entity to provide reports to  
15 the department on stroke performance measures;  
16 providing immunity from liability under certain  
17 circumstances; amending s. 395.3041, F.S.; conforming  
18 a provision to changes made by the act and deleting  
19 obsolete dates; providing an effective date.

20  
21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

22  
23 Section 1. Section 395.3038, Florida Statutes, is amended  
24 to read:

25 395.3038 State-listed ~~primary stroke centers and~~  
26 ~~comprehensive~~ stroke centers; notification of hospitals.—

27 (1) The agency shall make available on its website and to  
28 the department a list of the name and address of each hospital  
29 that meets the criteria for an acute stroke ready center, a

576-04165-17

20171406c2

30 primary stroke center, ~~or and the name and address of each~~  
31 ~~hospital that meets the criteria for a comprehensive stroke~~  
32 center. The list of ~~primary and comprehensive~~ stroke centers  
33 must include only those hospitals that attest in an affidavit  
34 submitted to the agency that the hospital meets the named  
35 criteria, or those hospitals that attest in an affidavit  
36 submitted to the agency that the hospital is certified as an  
37 acute stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, or a  
38 comprehensive stroke center by a nationally recognized ~~an~~  
39 accrediting organization.

40 (2) (a) If a hospital no longer chooses to meet the criteria  
41 for an acute stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, or a  
42 comprehensive stroke center, the hospital shall notify the  
43 agency and the agency shall immediately remove the hospital from  
44 the list of stroke centers.

45 (b)1. This subsection does not apply if the hospital is  
46 unable to provide stroke treatment services for a period of time  
47 not to exceed 2 months. The hospital shall immediately notify  
48 all local emergency medical services providers when the  
49 temporary unavailability of stroke treatment services begins and  
50 when the services resume.

51 2. If stroke treatment services are unavailable for more  
52 than 2 months, the agency shall remove the hospital from the  
53 list of ~~primary or comprehensive~~ stroke centers until the  
54 hospital notifies the agency that stroke treatment services have  
55 been resumed.

56 (3) The agency shall adopt by rule criteria for an acute  
57 stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, and a  
58 comprehensive stroke center which are substantially similar to

576-04165-17

20171406c2

59 the certification standards for the same categories of primary  
60 stroke centers of a nationally recognized accrediting  
61 organization ~~the Joint Commission.~~

62 ~~(4) The agency shall adopt by rule criteria for a~~  
63 ~~comprehensive stroke center. However, if the Joint Commission~~  
64 ~~establishes criteria for a comprehensive stroke center, agency~~  
65 ~~rules shall be substantially similar.~~

66 (4)~~(5)~~ This act is not a medical practice guideline and may  
67 not be used to restrict the authority of a hospital to provide  
68 services for which it is licensed under chapter 395. The  
69 Legislature intends that all patients be treated individually  
70 based on each patient's needs and circumstances.

71 Section 2. Section 395.30381, Florida Statutes, is created  
72 to read:

73 395.30381 Statewide stroke registry.-

74 (1) Subject to a specific appropriation, the department  
75 shall contract with a private entity to establish and maintain a  
76 statewide stroke registry to ensure that the stroke performance  
77 measures required to be submitted under subsection (2) are  
78 maintained and available for use to improve or modify the stroke  
79 care system, ensure compliance with standards, and monitor  
80 stroke patient outcomes.

81 (2) Each acute ready stroke center, primary stroke center,  
82 and comprehensive stroke center shall regularly report to the  
83 statewide stroke registry information specified by the  
84 department, including nationally recognized stroke performance  
85 measures.

86 (3) The department shall require the contracted entity to  
87 use a nationally recognized platform to collect data from each

576-04165-17

20171406c2

88 stroke center on the stroke performance measures required in  
89 subsection (2). The contracted entity shall provide regular  
90 reports to the department on the data collected.

91 (4) No liability of any kind or character for damages or  
92 other relief shall arise or be enforced against any acute ready  
93 stroke center, primary stroke center, or comprehensive stroke  
94 center by reason of having provided such information to the  
95 statewide stroke registry.

96 Section 3. Subsections (1), (2), and (4) of section  
97 395.3041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

98 395.3041 Emergency medical services providers; triage and  
99 transportation of stroke victims to a stroke center.—

100 (1) By June 1 of each year, the department shall send the  
101 list of acute stroke ready centers, primary stroke centers, and  
102 comprehensive stroke centers to the medical director of each  
103 licensed emergency medical services provider in this state.

104 (2) The department shall develop a sample stroke-triage  
105 assessment tool. The department must post this sample assessment  
106 tool on its website and provide a copy of the assessment tool to  
107 each licensed emergency medical services provider ~~no later than~~  
108 ~~June 1, 2005~~. Each licensed emergency medical services provider  
109 must use a stroke-triage assessment tool that is substantially  
110 similar to the sample stroke-triage assessment tool provided by  
111 the department.

112 (4) Each emergency medical services provider licensed under  
113 chapter 401 must comply with all sections of this act ~~by July 1,~~  
114 ~~2005~~.

115 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.