

By Senator Book

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to stroke centers; amending s.  
3       395.3038, F.S.; revising the criteria for hospitals to  
4       be included on the state list of stroke centers by the  
5       Agency for Health Care Administration; removing  
6       provisions requiring the agency to adopt rules  
7       establishing the criteria for such list; amending s.  
8       395.30381, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the  
9       statewide stroke registry to conform to changes made  
10      by the act; amending s. 395.3039, F.S.; revising  
11      provisions prohibiting the advertisement of a hospital  
12      as a state-listed stroke center, unless certain  
13      conditions are met, to conform to changes made by the  
14      act; amending s. 395.3041, F.S.; requiring the  
15      Department of Health and the medical director of each  
16      licensed emergency medical services provider to  
17      develop and implement protocols for the assessment,  
18      treatment, transport, and rerouting of suspected  
19      stroke patients to certain stroke centers; requiring  
20      that such protocols include specified plans for the  
21      triage and transport of suspected stroke patients;  
22      providing an effective date.

23  
24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

25  
26       Section 1. Subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2),  
27       and subsection (3) of section 395.3038, Florida Statutes, are  
28       amended to read:

29       395.3038 State-listed stroke centers; notification of

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30 hospitals.-

31 (1) The agency shall make available on its website and to  
32 the department a list of the name and address of each hospital  
33 that is certified by a nationally recognized certifying  
34 organization as ~~meets the criteria for~~ an acute stroke ready  
35 center, a primary stroke center, a thrombectomy-capable stroke  
36 center, or a comprehensive stroke center. The list of stroke  
37 centers must include only those hospitals that have submitted  
38 documentation to the agency verifying their certification as an  
39 acute stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, a  
40 thrombectomy-capable stroke center, or a comprehensive stroke  
41 center, which may include, but is not limited to, any stroke  
42 center that offers and performs mechanical endovascular therapy  
43 consistent with the rigorous standards identified by the Joint  
44 Commission, the American Heart Association, the American Stroke  
45 Association, or any other nationally recognized guidelines-based  
46 organization approved by the agency that ~~attest in an affidavit~~  
47 submitted to the agency that the hospital meets the named  
48 criteria, or those hospitals that attest in an affidavit  
49 submitted to the agency that the hospital is certified as an  
50 acute stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, or a  
51 comprehensive stroke center by a nationally recognized  
52 accrediting organization.

53 (2) (a) If a hospital no longer chooses to be certified by a  
54 nationally recognized certifying organization or has not  
55 attained certification consistent with ~~meet~~ the criteria in  
56 subsection (1) as ~~for~~ an acute stroke ready center, a primary  
57 stroke center, a thrombectomy-capable stroke center, or a  
58 comprehensive stroke center, the hospital shall notify the

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59 agency and the agency shall immediately remove the hospital from  
60 the list of stroke centers.

61 ~~(3) The agency shall adopt by rule criteria for an acute~~  
62 ~~stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, and a~~  
63 ~~comprehensive stroke center which are substantially similar to~~  
64 ~~the certification standards for the same categories of stroke~~  
65 ~~centers of a nationally recognized accrediting organization.~~

66 Section 2. Section 395.30381, Florida Statutes, is amended  
67 to read:

68 395.30381 Statewide stroke registry.-

69 (1) Subject to a specific appropriation, the department  
70 shall contract with a private entity to establish and maintain a  
71 statewide stroke registry to ensure that the stroke performance  
72 measures required to be submitted under subsection (2) are  
73 maintained and available for use to improve or modify the stroke  
74 care system, ensure compliance with standards and nationally  
75 recognized guidelines, and monitor stroke patient outcomes.

76 (2) Each acute stroke ready center, primary stroke center,  
77 thrombectomy-capable stroke center, and comprehensive stroke  
78 center shall regularly report to the statewide stroke registry  
79 information containing ~~specified by the department, including~~  
80 nationally recognized stroke performance measures.

81 (3) The department shall require the contracted private  
82 entity to use a nationally recognized platform to collect data  
83 from each stroke center on the stroke performance measures  
84 required in subsection (2). The contracted private entity shall  
85 provide regular reports to the department on the data collected.

86 (4) A ~~No~~ liability of any kind or character for damages or  
87 other relief shall not arise or be enforced against any acute

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88 stroke ready center, primary stroke center, thrombectomy-capable  
89 stroke center, or comprehensive stroke center by reason of  
90 having provided such information to the statewide stroke  
91 registry.

92 Section 3. Section 395.3039, Florida Statutes, is amended  
93 to read:

94 395.3039 Advertising restrictions.—A person may not  
95 advertise to the public, by way of any medium whatsoever, that a  
96 hospital is a state-listed ~~primary or comprehensive~~ stroke  
97 center unless the hospital has submitted documentation to the  
98 agency verifying that it is certified and meets the criteria  
99 ~~provided notice to the agency~~ as required in s. 395.3038 ~~by this~~  
100 act.

101 Section 4. Subsections (1), (3), and (4) of section  
102 395.3041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

103 395.3041 Emergency medical services providers; triage and  
104 transportation of stroke victims to a stroke center.—

105 (1) By June 1 of each year, the department shall send the  
106 list of acute stroke ready centers, primary stroke centers,  
107 thrombectomy-capable stroke centers, and comprehensive stroke  
108 centers to the medical director of each licensed emergency  
109 medical services provider in the ~~this~~ state.

110 (3) The department and the medical director of each  
111 licensed emergency medical services provider shall develop and  
112 implement assessment, treatment, transport, and rerouting  
113 ~~transport-destination~~ protocols for stroke patients with the  
114 intent to assess, treat, ~~and transport~~, and reroute stroke  
115 patients to acute stroke ready centers, primary stroke centers,  
116 thrombectomy-capable stroke centers, and comprehensive stroke

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117 centers. The protocols must include plans for the triage and  
118 transport of suspected stroke patients, including, but not  
119 limited to, patients who may have an emergent large vessel  
120 occlusion, to an appropriate facility within a specified  
121 timeframe after such patients exhibit the sudden onset of  
122 stroke-related symptoms. In developing the protocols, the  
123 department and the medical director of each licensed emergency  
124 medical services provider must consider the capability of an  
125 emergency receiving facility to improve outcomes for patients  
126 who are suspected, based on clinical severity, of having an  
127 emergent large vessel occlusion ~~the most appropriate hospital.~~

128 (4) Each emergency medical services provider licensed under  
129 chapter 401 must comply with ~~all sections of this~~ section and  
130 ss. 395.3038-395.3039 ~~act.~~

131 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.