

By the Committee on Health Policy; and Senators Book and Powell

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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 medical
15 director of each licensed emergency medical services
16 provider to develop and implement protocols for the
17 assessment, treatment, transport, and rerouting of
18 suspected stroke patients to certain stroke centers;
19 requiring that such protocols include specified plans
20 for the triage and transport of suspected stroke
21 patients; providing an effective date.

22
23 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

24
25 Section 1. Subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2),
26 and subsection (3) of section 395.3038, Florida Statutes, are
27 amended to read:

28 395.3038 State-listed stroke centers; notification of
29 hospitals.—

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

50 (2) (a) If a hospital no longer chooses to be certified by a
51 nationally recognized certifying organization or has not
52 attained certification consistent with ~~meet~~ the criteria in
53 subsection (1) as ~~for~~ an acute stroke ready center, a primary
54 stroke center, a thrombectomy-capable stroke center, or a
55 comprehensive stroke center, the hospital shall notify the
56 agency and the agency shall immediately remove the hospital from
57 the list of stroke centers.

58 ~~(3) The agency shall adopt by rule criteria for an acute~~

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59 ~~stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, and a~~
60 ~~comprehensive stroke center which are substantially similar to~~
61 ~~the certification standards for the same categories of stroke~~
62 ~~centers of a nationally recognized accrediting organization.~~

63 Section 2. Section 395.30381, Florida Statutes, is amended
64 to read:

65 395.30381 Statewide stroke registry.-

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

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

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

83 (4) ~~A No~~ liability of any kind or character for damages or
84 other relief shall not arise or be enforced against any acute
85 stroke ready center, primary stroke center, thrombectomy-capable
86 stroke center, or comprehensive stroke center by reason of
87 having provided such information to the statewide stroke

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88 registry.

89 Section 3. Section 395.3039, Florida Statutes, is amended
90 to read:

91 395.3039 Advertising restrictions.—A person may not
92 advertise to the public, by way of any medium whatsoever, that a
93 hospital is a state-listed ~~primary or comprehensive~~ stroke
94 center unless the hospital has submitted documentation to the
95 agency verifying that it is certified and meets the criteria
96 ~~provided notice to the agency as required in s. 395.3038 by this~~
97 ~~act.~~

98 Section 4. Subsections (1), (3), and (4) of section
99 395.3041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

100 395.3041 Emergency medical services providers; triage and
101 transportation of stroke victims to a stroke center.—

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

107 (3) The medical director of each licensed emergency medical
108 services provider shall develop and implement assessment,
109 treatment, transport, and rerouting ~~transport-destination~~
110 protocols for stroke patients with the intent to assess, treat,
111 ~~and transport,~~ and reroute stroke patients to acute stroke ready
112 centers, primary stroke centers, thrombectomy-capable stroke
113 centers, and comprehensive stroke centers. The protocols must
114 include plans for the triage and transport of suspected stroke
115 patients, including, but not limited to, patients who may have
116 an emergent large vessel occlusion, to an appropriate facility

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117 within a specified timeframe after such patients exhibit the
118 sudden onset of stroke-related symptoms. In developing the
119 protocols, the department and the medical director of each
120 licensed emergency medical services provider must consider the
121 capability of an emergency receiving facility to improve
122 outcomes for patients who are suspected, based on clinical
123 severity, of having an emergent large vessel occlusion ~~the most~~
124 ~~appropriate hospital.~~

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

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