

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS****HCR 92****2015 Regular Session****Willmott**

HEALTH/EMERG MED SERVICE: Authorizes and directs the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to issue administrative rules concerning transportation of patients with cardiac and stroke emergencies

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Add a requirement that the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH), in consultation with the Louisiana Emergency Response Network (LERN), the Louisiana Hospital Association, and the Louisiana State Medical Society promulgate rules and regulations for certification of trauma centers based upon national guidelines.
2. Provide that guidelines for certification of trauma centers shall include but not be limited to those established by the American College of Surgeons in Hospital and Pre-Hospital Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient and any appendices thereto; and may also provide, without limitation, for the following standards and requirements:
  - (a) Specify the number and types of trauma patients for whom such centers must provide care in order to ensure that such centers will have sufficient experience and expertise to be able to provide quality care for victims of injury.
  - (b) Specify the resources and equipment needed by such centers.
  - (c) Include standards and guidelines for triage and transportation of trauma patients prior to care in designated trauma centers.
  - (d) Specify procedures for the certification and evaluation of designated trauma centers.
  - (e) Include procedures for the receipt, recording of, and disposition of complaints.
  - (f) Provide for the right of appeal for those healthcare facilities for which certification has been refused.
  - (g) Provide for the verification and certification of trauma center status which assign level designations based on resources available within the applicable facility.
  - (h) Provide that LERN may fund the provision of data to the state trauma registry in accordance with the registry's adopted rules, requirements, and reporting cycle.
  - (i) Provide that certified trauma centers participate in LERN regional commissions and LERN regional and state-level trauma system performance improvement and injury prevention activities per American College of Surgeons guidelines once adequate funding has been secured by the certified trauma center.
3. Provide that the proposed trauma center regulations be consistent with the guidelines for verification of trauma centers specified by the American College of Surgeons.

4. Provide that the proposed trauma center regulations shall include all of the following requirements:
  - (a) That healthcare facilities applying for certification as a Level I, II, or III trauma center obtain a verification site visit through the Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons.
  - (b) That healthcare facilities applying for certification as a Level IV trauma center obtain a verification site visit through the Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons or an attestation site visit through LERN.
5. Require DHH to designate and certify a healthcare facility as a Level I, II, or III trauma center when the applicable legal requirements have been fulfilled and upon verification from the American College of Surgeons (ACS) that the facility has met ACS trauma center criteria for Level I, II, or III.
6. Require DHH to designate and certify a healthcare facility as a Level IV trauma center when the applicable legal requirements have been fulfilled, and upon receipt of one of the following:
  - (a) A verification from ACS that the facility has met ACS trauma center criteria for Level IV.
  - (b) A certification from LERN that the facility has met LERN trauma center criteria for Level IV and that LERN's Level IV trauma center criteria shall be the same or substantially similar to the ACS Level IV trauma center criteria.
7. Stipulate that the "trauma center" label shall be reserved exclusively for hospitals with state-issued trauma center certification.
8. Require DHH to issue standard forms for applications and for inspection reports, after consultation with LERN and other appropriate organizations.

#### **Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Authorizes and directs the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to promulgate administrative rules providing for all of the following:

- (1) Requirements for licensed ambulance services to establish certain pre-hospital destination protocols related to the assessment and transport of patients with cardiac and stroke emergencies.
- (2) Certification of Level I, II, III, and IV trauma centers based upon national guidelines.