

SS HCS HB 1790 -- MUNICIPAL HEALTH CARE FACILITIES AND HOSPITAL DESIGNATIONS

This bill changes the laws regarding municipal health care facilities and hospital designations.

MUNICIPAL HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Currently, an ordinance providing for a larger board of trustees for municipal health care facilities requires that three-fifths of the trustees be citizens of the city. The bill specifies that some or all of the trustees do not have to be citizens of the city.

HOSPITAL DESIGNATIONS

Currently, a hospital can be designated as a trauma center and severely injured patients will be transported to the nearest designated trauma center. The bill changes the laws regarding hospital designations by the Department of Health and Senior Services to include a STEMI center and a stroke center if it meets the department's applicable level of STEMI or stroke center criteria. "ST-elevation myocardial infarction" (STEMI) is defined as a type of heart attack in which impaired blood flow to the heart is evidenced by findings in electrocardiogram analysis. The department is required to:

- (1) Compile and assess peer-reviewed and evidence-based clinical research and guidelines that provide or support recommended treatment standards;
- (2) Assess the capacity of the emergency medical services system and hospitals to deliver recommended treatments in a timely fashion;
- (3) Establish protocols for transporting STEMI patients to STEMI centers and stroke patients to stroke centers;
- (4) Establish regions within the state for coordinating the delivery of STEMI and stroke care;
- (5) Promote the development of regional or community-based plans for transporting STEMI and stroke patients to STEMI and stroke centers; and
- (6) Establish procedures for the submission of community-based or regional plans for department approval.

A community-based or regional plan must be submitted to the department for approval. Plans must be based on clinical

research and guidelines and the capacity assessment of emergency medical services. Patients who suffer a STEMI or stroke will be transported to the nearest STEMI or stroke center.