A bill to be entitled

An act relating to ambulatory surgical centers;
amending s. 395.002, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “ambulatory surgical center”; amending s. 395.1055, F.S.; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Board of Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to adopt rules that establish requirements related to the delivery of surgical care to children in ambulatory surgical centers, in accordance with specified standards; specifying that ambulatory surgical centers may provide certain procedures only if authorized by agency rule; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 395.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

395.002 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:
(3) “Ambulatory surgical center” means a facility the primary purpose of which is to provide elective surgical care, in which the patient is admitted to and discharged from such facility within 24 hours the same working day and is not permitted to stay overnight, and which is not part of a hospital. However, a facility existing for the primary purpose of performing terminations of pregnancy, an office maintained by a physician for the practice of medicine, or an office maintained for the practice of dentistry may not be construed to be an ambulatory surgical center, provided that any facility or
office which is certified or seeks certification as a Medicare ambulance surgical center shall be licensed as an ambulatory surgical center pursuant to s. 395.003.

Section 2. Present subsections (3) through (12) of section 395.1055, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4) through (13), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

395.1055 Rules and enforcement.—

(3)(a) The agency, in consultation with the Board of Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine, shall adopt rules that establish requirements to ensure the safe and effective delivery of surgical care to children in ambulatory surgical centers. The rules must be consistent with the American College of Surgeons’ 2015 standards document entitled “Optimal Resources for Children’s Surgical Care” and must establish minimum standards for pediatric patient care in ambulatory surgical centers.

(b) Ambulatory surgical centers may provide operative procedures that require a length of stay past midnight on the day of surgery for children younger than 18 years of age only if the agency authorizes the performance of such procedures by rule.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.