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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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Floor: 5/F/2R

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04/28/2014 06:55 PM

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Senator Diaz de la Portilla moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Before line 52

insert:

Section 1. Section 395.4027, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

395.4027 Florida Teletrauma Pilot Project.-

(1) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term
“teletrauma health care” means the remote management or
assistance in management of the care of a trauma patient using
telemedicine technology to allow the remote presence of a health



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12 care provider from a Level I trauma center in geographic areas
13 in which such trauma centers are not available.

14 (2) FLORIDA TELETRAUMA PILOT PROJECT.—

15 (a) A pilot project is created to allow a teaching hospital
16 with multiple hospitals operating under a single license which
17 is in a county with a population of more than two million people
18 and also serves as the surgical training facility for branches
19 of the United States military to provide trauma services at any
20 of its hospitals through the use of telemedicine from its
21 existing Level I trauma center, provided that the hospitals that
22 provide these services meet the requirements for staffing and
23 infrastructure of a Level II trauma center.

24 (b) Additional trauma centers may not apply or be verified
25 in the impacted trauma service area for the duration of the
26 pilot project.

27 (3) EXPIRATION.—The authorization for the pilot project and
28 this section expire December 31, 2021.

29 Section 2. Section 395.4045, Florida Statutes, is amended
30 to read:

31 395.4045 Emergency medical service providers; trauma
32 transport protocols; transport of trauma alert victims to trauma
33 centers or teletrauma hospitals; interfacility transfer.—

34 (1) Each emergency medical services provider licensed under
35 chapter 401 shall transport trauma alert victims to hospitals
36 approved as trauma centers or participating in the teletrauma
37 pilot project pursuant to s. 395.4027, except as may be provided
38 for either in the department-approved trauma transport protocol
39 of the trauma agency for the geographical area in which the
40 emergency medical services licensee provides services or, if no



41 such department-approved trauma transport protocol is in effect,
42 as provided for in a department-approved provider's trauma
43 transport protocol.

44 (2) A trauma agency may develop a uniform trauma transport
45 protocol that is applicable to the emergency medical services
46 licensees providing services within the geographical boundaries
47 of the trauma agency, including hospitals participating in the
48 teletrauma pilot project under s. 395.4027. Development of a
49 uniform trauma protocol by a trauma agency shall be through
50 consultation with interested parties, including, but not limited
51 to, each approved trauma center; physicians specializing in
52 trauma care, emergency care, and surgery in the region; each
53 trauma system administrator in the region; each emergency
54 medical service provider in the region licensed under chapter
55 401, and such providers' respective medical directors.

56 (3) Trauma alert victims shall be identified through the
57 use of a trauma scoring system, including adult and pediatric
58 assessment as specified in rule of the department. The rule
59 shall also include the requirements of licensed emergency
60 medical services providers for performing and documenting these
61 assessments.

62 (4) The department shall specify by rule the subjects and
63 the minimum criteria related to prehospital trauma transport;iT
64 trauma center, teletrauma center, or hospital destination
65 determinations;iT and interfacility trauma transfer transport by
66 an emergency medical services provider to be included in a
67 trauma agency's or emergency medical service provider's trauma
68 transport protocol and shall approve or disapprove each such
69 protocol. Trauma transport protocol rules pertaining to the air



70 transportation of trauma victims shall be consistent with, but
71 not limited to, applicable Federal Aviation Administration
72 regulation. Emergency medical services licensees and trauma
73 agencies shall be subject to monitoring by the department, under
74 ss. 395.401(3) and 401.31(1) for compliance with requirements,
75 as applicable, regarding trauma transport protocols and the
76 transport of trauma victims.

77 (5) If there is no department-approved trauma agency trauma
78 transport protocol for the geographical area in which the
79 emergency medical services license applicant intends to provide
80 services, as provided for in subsection (1), each applicant for
81 licensure as an emergency medical services provider, under
82 chapter 401, must submit and obtain department approval of a
83 trauma transport protocol prior to the department granting a
84 license. The department shall prescribe by rule the submission
85 and approval process for an applicant's trauma transport
86 protocols whether the applicant will be using a trauma agency's
87 or its own trauma transport protocol.

88 (6) If an air ambulance service is available in the trauma
89 service area in which an emergency medical service provider is
90 located, trauma transport protocols shall not provide for
91 transport outside of the trauma service area unless otherwise
92 provided for by written mutual agreement. If air ambulance
93 service is not available and there is no agreement for
94 interagency transport of trauma patients between two adjacent
95 local or regional trauma agencies, both of which include at
96 least one approved trauma center, then the transport of a trauma
97 patient with an immediately life-threatening condition shall be
98 to the most appropriate trauma center as defined pursuant to



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99 trauma transport protocols approved by the department. The
100 provisions of this subsection shall apply only to those counties
101 with a population in excess of 1 million residents.

102 (7) Prior to an interfacility trauma transfer, the
103 emergency medical services provider's medical director or his or
104 her designee must agree, pursuant to protocols and procedures in
105 the emergency medical services provider's trauma transport
106 protocol, that the staff of the transport vehicle has the
107 medical skills, equipment, and resources to provide anticipated
108 patient care as proposed by the transferring physician. The
109 emergency medical services provider's medical director or his or
110 her designee may require appropriate staffing, equipment, and
111 resources to ensure proper patient care and safety during
112 transfer.

113 (8) The department shall adopt and enforce all rules
114 necessary to administer this section. The department shall adopt
115 and enforce rules to specify the submission and approval process
116 for trauma transport protocols or modifications to trauma
117 transport protocols by trauma agencies and licensed emergency
118 medical services providers.

119
120 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

121 And the title is amended as follows:

122 Delete line 2

123 and insert:

124 An act relating to health care; creating s. 395.4027,
125 F.S.; establishing the Florida Teletrauma Pilot
126 Project; defining the term "teletrauma health care";
127 authorizing certain hospitals to provide remote care



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128 to trauma patients at satellite hospitals under
129 certain circumstances; prohibiting the application or
130 verification of additional trauma centers in the
131 impacted trauma service area for the duration of the
132 pilot project; providing for future expiration of the
133 pilot project; amending s. 395.4045, F.S.; requiring
134 emergency medical service providers to transport
135 trauma alert victims to hospitals participating in the
136 teletrauma pilot project; revising the authorized
137 uniform trauma transport protocol; requiring the
138 Department of Health to specify by rule certain
139 subjects and criteria related to the transport of
140 trauma victims to and from a teletrauma center;
141 amending s. 409.967,