



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
2009-10 Legislative Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

**HOUSE BILL: 978**

**PRINTER'S NO: 1282**

**PRIME SPONSOR: Eachus**

<b>FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY</b>	<b>FY 2010/11</b>	<b>FY 2011/12</b>
<b>Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):</b>		
General Fund	\$0	\$0

**OVERVIEW:**

House Bill 978 amends the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Stabilization Act with respect to accreditation and payments to Level III trauma centers. In addition, the bill extends the timeframe used by the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation to grant or deny a certificate to hospitals seeking accreditation as a Level III trauma center from 120 to 240 days.

This act would take effect immediately.

**ANALYSIS:**

House Bill 978 revises the criteria for Level III trauma center accreditation to allow such a center to be located in a third to eighth class county, regardless of whether there is an existing Level I or Level II trauma center in the county. Currently, only hospitals with accredited Level III trauma centers may receive trauma center payments from the Department of Public Welfare; this bill also would allow hospitals seeking Level III accreditation to receive payments for up to four years with documented evidence of progression toward accreditation as verified by the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation.

Enactment of House Bill 978 will have no impact on Commonwealth expenditures because the amount of trauma center payments will continue to be based on funds appropriated by the General Assembly. For fiscal year ending 2009, thirty-two hospitals qualified for trauma center payments. Under the new provisions in this bill, it is anticipated that an additional sixteen hospitals could be eligible for payments.

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**DATE:** October 6, 2010

**General Note and Disclaimer:** *This Fiscal Note was prepared pursuant to House Rule 19(a), and the elements considered and reported above are required by Section 5 of the rule. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*