



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 786

PRINTERS NO. 2242

PRIME SPONSOR: Cutler

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: House Bill 786, Printer's Number 2242, amends Title 35 (Health and Safety) to add accreditation standards for trauma centers and repeals the Human Services Code provisions pertaining to trauma centers. This legislation is effective immediately.

ANALYSIS: This legislation establishes accreditation criteria for Level III trauma centers. The accreditation standards are:

1. Current guidelines defined by the American College of Surgeons for Level III trauma centers.
2. Provide comprehensive emergency services, defined as:
 - a. Having at least 2 qualified physicians to staff during peak times.
 - b. At least one registered nurse with specialized training in advanced life support techniques available at all times.
 - c. Anesthesia services available at all times
 - d. Physician specialists who can immediately consult by phone and can report immediately to the emergency department as needed
 - e. Ancillary services including laboratory, radiology, pharmacy and respiratory therapy available at all times.
3. Have 4,000 or more inpatient admissions annually from the emergency department.
4. Be located in a third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh or eighth class county. This requirement does not apply to existing accredited Level III trauma centers.
5. Be located more than 25 miles travel distance from a Level I, Level II or Level III trauma center

HB 786 requires a Level III trauma center to submit an application to the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation. The Foundation must complete its review of the application within 120 days of receipt. Within 240 days of the completion of the site survey, the Foundation shall grant or deny a certificate to the hospital seeking to be accredited as a Level III trauma center.

Additionally, this legislation requires that all hospitals submitting an application for a Level I, II, or III trauma center after the date of this act be located more than 25 miles from an established

Level I, II or III trauma center. 25 miles is calculated as any amount over 24.0 miles. HB 786 includes the following exceptions to the travel requirements:

1. For a trauma center which is being relocated;
2. For a trauma center which is part of a merger or acquisition; and
3. For a trauma center within a catchment area that has a volume of excess cases above the volume required for reaccreditation that is twice the amount required for reaccreditation.

From funds appropriated for supplemental payments to trauma centers, ninety percent of the funds shall be allocated to Level I and Level II facilities and ten percent shall be allocated to accredited Level III trauma centers and hospitals seeking Level III accreditation for up to four years with documented evidence of progression to accreditation.

A hospital which receives funds under this section shall report an anticipated closure to the Department of Health, Department of Human Services and the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation no later than 60 days prior to the closure of that trauma center.

Annual reports shall be made to the Health Committee in the House and the Health and Human Services Committee in the Senate. These reports shall indicate the facilities which are receiving funds and the number of individuals served.

Trauma centers are required to certify the funds are intended to be used for developing and providing trauma services or the availability of and access to trauma care for patients.

This legislation also repeals Article VIII-H, Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Stabilization, of the Human Service Code.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this legislation will have no fiscal impact.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 26, 2019

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.