

HOUSE BILL 711

By Terry

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71, relative to reporting
surgical complications to the department of health.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1.

(a) The department of health shall study the feasibility of requiring emergency rooms to report to the department data on incidences of persons that present at the emergency room with surgical complications within thirty (30) days of an invasive surgical procedure that was performed at a surgical center or other non-hospital facility, and develop recommendations for an administrative procedure by which emergency rooms can report.

(b) In conducting the study and developing recommendations under subsection (a), the department of health may solicit input and recommendations from any department, agency, division, or entity of this state or its political subdivisions.

(c) The department of health shall report its findings and recommendations no later than January 1, 2020, to the chief clerk of the senate and the chief clerk of the house of representatives. The report must include an evaluation of:

(1) The feasibility of requiring emergency rooms to collect and report data on incidences of patients presenting with surgical complications at emergency rooms within thirty (30) days of an invasive surgical procedure that was performed at a facility other than a hospital;

(2) A comparison, using data from a period of not less than twelve (12) months, of the thirty-day complication rates from invasive surgical procedures performed in a hospital and those performed at a facility other than a hospital;

(3) The costs, if any, of implementing such a reporting process; and

(4) Any other information deemed pertinent by the department.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.