

HOUSE BILL 2316

By Ramsey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and Title 68, relative to a stroke best practices and treatment guidelines task force.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 1, is amended by adding the following as a new part 26:

68-1-2601.

(a) There is hereby established under the department of health a stroke best practices and treatment guidelines task force.

(b) The membership of the task force shall be appointed by the commissioner of health on or before July 1, 2016. The membership shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A designated member from each comprehensive stroke center in the state;

(2) A designated member from a primary stroke center;

(3) A designated member from an acute stroke ready hospital; provided, that the designated hospital may be appointed as soon as an appropriate hospital has been certified;

(4) Three (3) emergency medical service (EMS) representatives:

(A) An emergency medical services provider actively working within a county EMS system from an urban area;

(B) An emergency medical services provider actively working within a county EMS system from a rural area; and

(C) An emergency medical services operations representative from the Tennessee ambulance service association;

(5) A representative of an emergency communications district board;

(6) Appropriate staff from the department of health;

(7) A representative of the Tennessee medical association; and

(8) A representative of a nationally recognized stroke association with a stroke data collection platform system.

68-1-2602. Members of the stroke best practices and treatment guidelines task force shall be volunteers. The members shall meet without compensation. The members shall not be eligible for compensation for travel expenses in accordance with the comprehensive travel regulation promulgated by the commissioner finance and administration and approved by the attorney general and reporter.

68-1-2603. Meetings of the stroke best practices and treatment guidelines task force shall provide audio access for participants on the task force and shall be available by audio for monitoring by the public.

68-1-2604.

(a) With assistance from the department of health and college of public health of East Tennessee State University, the stroke best practices and treatment guidelines task force shall provide a progress report and preliminary recommendations to the chair of the health and welfare committee of the senate and the chair of the health committee of the house of representatives by January 1, 2017.

(b) The task force shall make final recommendations to the chair of the health and welfare committee of the senate and the chair of the health committee of the house of representatives by July 1, 2017, concerning the following:

(1) A recommendation for a mandatory statewide data collection registry specific to stroke patients;

(2) The potential need for state funding in order to offset the costs of the data collection for some or all hospitals and other healthcare providers;

(3) The need for state-sanctioned designations for hospitals denoting their readiness to treat stroke patients on an emergency basis; and

(4) The need and advisability of destination guidelines or standards for emergency medical services personnel.

(c) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2021.

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