

SENATE BILL 629

By Watson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 68 and Title 71, relative to rural hospitals.

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

SECTION 1. On or before January 15, 2018, the commissioner of health, in consultation with the bureau of TennCare, is directed to study and to report to the senate health and welfare committee, the senate finance, ways and means committee, the health committee of the house of representatives, and the finance, ways and means committee of the house of representatives concerning options for developing a transformation plan for financially vulnerable rural hospitals that would facilitate moving those hospitals to a more sustainable operations model. The study shall specifically consider the possible role of non-rural hospitals serving as advising hospitals to rural hospitals in any transformation plan grants and examine efforts of other states in transforming the business models of rural hospitals.

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