



Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

Room 168 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3031
(717) 787-8524
FAX (717) 772-0576

Senator Patricia H. Vance
Chairman

Amy Powell Bolze, Esq.
Executive Director

Summary HB 1400 PN 2652

This legislation creates the Primary Stroke Center Recognition Act and directs the Department of Health to recognize hospitals which have achieved national certification for stroke care.

The Department of Health may accept a certification from the joint commission or other nationally recognized accrediting organization which provides a certification for stroke care. The state designation shall remain in effect so long as the national certification is current.

A list of all accredited primary stroke centers and a standardized stroke triage assessment tool shall be made available to each emergency medical services agency director and posted on the department's website. The department shall develop protocols for the training of certified emergency medical services providers when dealing with stroke patients.

Effective Date

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

Background

According to the Joint Commission website the following Pennsylvania acute care hospitals hold an advanced certification in stroke (Primary Stroke Center):

Abington Memorial Hospital, Albert Einstein Medical Center (also Moss Rehab Einstein at Elkins Park), Allegheny General Hospital, Altoona Regional Health System (also Seventh Avenue Campus at ARHS), Bryn Mawr Hospital, Chester County Hospital, Chestnut Hill Hospital, Crozer-Chester Medical Center (also Taylor Hospital), Delaware County Memorial Hospital, Doylestown Hospital, Ephrata Community Hospital, Geisinger Medical Center, Grand View Hospital, Hahnemann University Hospital, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Jeanes Hospital, Lancaster General Hospital, Lankenau Medical Center, Lehigh Valley Health Network-Cedar Crest/ 17th & Crew/Muhlenburg, Memorial Medical Center, Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital (also Mercy Philadelphia), Nazareth Hospital, Paoli Hospital, Penn State Hershey Medical Center, PinnacleHealth-Harrisburg Hospital/Community General Osteopathic Hospital, Reading Hospital and Medical Center, Riddle Memorial Hospital, Sacred Heart Hospital, Saint Vincent Health Center, St. Luke's Hospital (also St. Luke's Allentown), Saint Mary Medical Center, Temple University Hospital, Western Pa Hospital-Forbes Regional Campus, Williamsport Hospital and Medical Center, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, UPMC-Hamot Medical Center, UPMC-Mercy, UPMC-Northwest, UPMC-Presbyterian (also Shadyside), UPMC-St. Margaret at UPP Division of General Surgery, Wilkes-Barre General and York Hospital.

Passage of similar laws in other states has suggested that state recognition encourages more hospitals to become certified as primary stroke centers.