

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 274

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HANNEGAN.

0957H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

To amend chapter 190, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to trauma centers, with penalty provisions.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 190, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 190.244, to read as follows:

**190.244. 1. Any hospital that is part of a network of hospitals licensed in the state and that is the only hospital designated by the department as a level II trauma center in any county with a population not less than three hundred fifty thousand inhabitants shall not terminate the trauma services that allow it to maintain its designation as a level II trauma center without approval of the department and the governor.**

**2. If a hospital described in subsection 1 of this section wishes to terminate the trauma services that allow it to maintain its designation as a level II trauma center, it shall submit an application to the department. In its review of the application, the department shall consider:**

**(1) Whether the entire hospital network has the financial resources to support the continuation of the trauma services at the hospital;**

**(2) Whether termination of the trauma services at the hospital would impact the health and safety of the residents of the county in which the hospital is located;**

**(3) Whether transportation of patients to another level II trauma center would add more than ten minutes of emergency response time for the other level II trauma center; and**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17           **(4) Whether transportation times for trauma patients would significantly increase**  
18 **as a result of the termination of the trauma services at the hospital.**

19           **3. Before making a decision on the application, the department shall hold a public**  
20 **hearing and seek input from the general public and local city and county governments, fire**  
21 **districts, fire departments, ambulance districts, and law enforcement agencies.**

22           **4. After holding the public hearing, the department shall make a recommendation**  
23 **on whether to approve the application. The department shall send its recommendation to**  
24 **the governor, who shall review it and determine whether to accept it.**

25           **5. The department may suspend or revoke the license of a hospital that terminates**  
26 **its trauma services in violation of this section. The procedures outlined in chapter 197 shall**  
27 **apply to any such suspension or revocation.**

28           **6. If a hospital terminates its trauma services in violation of this section, the**  
29 **department shall notify the network to which the hospital belongs of the violation, and the**  
30 **network shall pay a fine of one thousand dollars for each day following receipt of the**  
31 **notification in which the trauma services are not offered in violation of this section.**

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