

State of Wisconsin



1997 Assembly Bill 638

Date of enactment: **April 21, 1998**

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1997 WISCONSIN ACT 154

AN ACT to create 15.197 (25) and 146.56 of the statutes; **relating to:** creating a statewide trauma care system, granting rule-making authority and making an appropriation.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 15.197 (25) of the statutes is created to read:

15.197 (25) TRAUMA ADVISORY COUNCIL. (a) There is created in the department of health and family services a trauma advisory council. The trauma advisory council shall consist of the following members who have an interest and expertise in emergency medical services and who are appointed by the secretary of health and family services:

1. Four physicians who represent urban and rural areas.
2. Two registered nurses, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (f).
3. Two prehospital emergency medical services providers, including one representative of a municipality.
4. Two representatives of a rural hospital.
5. Two representatives of an urban hospital.
6. One member of the emergency medical services board.

(b) In appointing the members under par. (a), the secretary of health and family services shall ensure that all geographic areas of the state are represented.

(c) This subsection does not apply beginning on July 1, 2001.

SECTION 2. 146.56 of the statutes is created to read: 146.56 STATEWIDE TRAUMA CARE SYSTEM. (1) Not later than July 1, 2001, the department shall develop and implement a statewide trauma care system. The department shall seek the advice of the statewide trauma advisory council under s. 15.197 (25) in developing and implementing the system.

(2) The department shall promulgate rules to develop and implement the system. The rules shall include a method by which to classify all hospitals as to their respective emergency care capabilities. The classification rule shall be based on standards developed by the American College of Surgeons. Within 180 days after promulgation of the classification rule, and every 4 years thereafter, each hospital shall certify to the department the classification level of trauma care services that is provided by the hospital, based on the rule. The department may require a hospital to document the basis for its certification. The department may not direct a hospital to establish a certain level of certification.

SECTION 3. Nonstatutory provisions.

(1) STATEWIDE TRAUMA CARE SYSTEM; REPORT. The department of health and family services and the statewide trauma advisory council shall prepare a joint report on the development and implementation of a statewide trauma care system. The report shall make recommendations on issues that need to be resolved in developing and

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 1995-96: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated" by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].

implementing the system, including minimum services in rendering patient care; transport protocols; area trauma advisory councils and plans; development of a method to classify hospitals as to their respective emergency care capabilities and methods to make the resulting information available for public use; improving the communications systems between hospitals and prehospital elements of the trauma care system; development of a statewide trauma registry, including a data system to measure the effectiveness of trauma care and to develop ways to promote ongoing quality improvement; triage; interfacility transfers; enhancing the training and education of health care personnel involved in the provision of trauma care services; and monitoring adherence to rules. Not later than January 1, 2000, the department and the statewide trauma advisory council shall submit the report to the legislature in the manner provided under section 13.172 (2) of the statutes, to the joint committee on finance of the legislature as provided in subsection (2), to the governor and to the emergency medical services board.

(2) JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE REVIEW. The department of health and family services shall submit the report under subsection (1) to the joint committee on finance of the legislature for its review under section 13.10 of the statutes. The department of health and family services may not submit the rules under section 146.56 (2) of the statutes, as created by this act, to the legislative council staff for review under section 227.15 of the statutes until the joint committee on finance approves the report under subsection (1).

SECTION 4. Appropriation changes.

(1) STATEWIDE TRAUMA CARE SYSTEM. In the schedule of the statutes, to the joint committee on finance of the legislature as provided in subsection (2) under section 20.005 (3) of the statutes for the appropriation to the department of health and family services under section 20.435 (1) (a) of the statutes, as affected by the acts of 1997, the dollar amount is increased by \$8,000 for fiscal year 1998–99 to fund the activities of the statewide trauma advisory council under section 15.197 (25) of the statutes, as created by this act.