

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 246

An act relating to certificates of need; amending s. 408.0361, F.S.; revising provisions applicable to hospitals seeking certification as Level I programs; providing criteria for certification to provide certain Level I cardiology services; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Present subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 408.0361, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5), (6), and (7), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

408.0361 Cardiology services and burn unit licensure.—

(4) In order to ensure continuity of available services, the holder of a certificate of need for a newly licensed hospital that meets the requirements of this subsection may apply for and shall be granted Level I program status regardless of whether rules relating to Level I programs have been adopted. To qualify for a Level I program under this subsection, a hospital seeking a Level I program must be a newly licensed hospital established pursuant to a certificate of need in a physical location previously licensed and operated as a hospital, the former hospital must have provided a minimum of 300 adult inpatient and outpatient diagnostic cardiac catheterizations for the most recent 12-month period as reported to the agency, and the newly licensed hospital must have a formalized, written transfer agreement with a hospital that has a Level II program, including written transport protocols to ensure safe and efficient transfer of a patient within 60 minutes. A hospital meeting the requirements of this subsection may apply for certification of Level I program status before taking possession of the physical location of the former hospital, and the effective date of Level I program status shall be concurrent with the effective date of the newly issued hospital license.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor June 26, 2007.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 26, 2007.