

H. B. 2931

(By Delegates Hatfield, Mahan and Marshall)

[Introduced January 28,2011; referred to the

Committee on Health and Human Resources then the Judiciary.]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §16-5B-18, relating to the designation of hospitals as primary stroke centers.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §16-5B-18, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 5B. HOSPITALS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS.

§16-5B-18. The Primary Stroke Center Hospital Designation Act.

(a) Except as otherwise provided, for purposes of this section:

(1) "Acute care hospital" means a licensed facility providing inpatient and outpatient medical or surgical services to an individual that seeks care and treatment, regardless of the

1 individual's ability to pay for services, on an immediate and
2 emergent basis through an established emergency department and a
3 continuous treatment basis on its premises for more than
4 twenty-four hours; and

5 (2) "Primary stroke center certification" means certification
6 for acute care hospitals issued by the Joint Commission on
7 Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) or another
8 Department of Health and acute Resources approved, nationally
9 recognized organization that provides disease specific
10 certification for stroke care that:

11 (A) Complies with census-based national standards and safety
12 goals;

13 (B) Effectively uses evidence-based clinical practice
14 guidelines to manage and optimize care; and

15 (C) Uses an organized approach to measure performance.

16 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human
17 Resources shall designate as a primary stroke center any acute care
18 hospital which has received a primary stroke center certification.

19 (c) The secretary shall suspend or revoke an acute care
20 hospital's designation as a primary stroke center if certification
21 is withdrawn by JCAHO or another approved certifying organization.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to designate certain hospitals as primary care centers.

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This section is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.