

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS22804

In 2013, the Idaho Legislature passed HCR 10, directing the Department of Health and Welfare to convene a working group to define a comprehensive system of care for time-sensitive emergencies in Idaho. The 48 member Time Sensitive Emergency Workgroup, made up of emergency medical service providers, hospitals, healthcare providers, public health, health insurers, rehabilitation providers, legislators and community members, met regularly for 7 months to develop a system framework and draft legislation. Time-sensitive emergencies include trauma, stroke and heart attack; three of the top five causes of deaths in Idaho in 2011. Numerous studies throughout the U.S. have demonstrated that organized systems of care improve patient outcomes, thus reducing the frequency of preventable death and improving the functional status of the patient. This legislation provides an outline for a coordinated and comprehensive system of evidence-based care that addresses: public education and prevention, 911 access, response coordination, pre-hospital response, transport, hospital emergency/acute care, rehabilitation and quality improvement. By creating a seamless transition between and among each level of care and integrating existing community and regional resources will support achieving improved patient outcomes and reduce costs. It will get the right patient to the right place in the right time.

FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Impact to State General Fund: \$225,750

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