

CHAPTER 154

**HEALTH**

**SENATE BILL 93-86**

BY SENATORS Wham, Bishop, Cassidy, Feeley, Gallagher, Groff, Hopper, Johnson, Lacy, Mares, Martinez, Mendez, Norton, Pastore, Peterson, L. Powers, R. Powers, Rizzuto, Ruddick, Traylor, Trujillo, Wattenberg, Weissmann, and Wells; also REPRESENTATIVES Entz, Acquafresca, Allen, Berry, Blue, Chlouber, Eisenach, Fleming, Friednash, Greenwood, Keller, Knox, Kreutz, Lawrence, Morrison, Nichol, Pierson, Prinster, Reeser, Reeves, Rupert, Strom, Tanner, Tucker, and Williams.

**AN ACT**

**CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATEWIDE TRAUMA SYSTEM.**

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1.** Article 3.5 of title 25, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1989 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PART to read:

**PART 7  
STATEWIDE TRAUMA SYSTEM**

**25-3.5-701. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT TRAUMA IS THE GREATEST SINGLE CAUSE OF DEATH AND DISABILITY IN COLORADO FOR PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF FORTY-FIVE YEARS, AND THAT TRAUMA CARE IS A UNIQUE TYPE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE BECAUSE THE SYSTEM OF CARE PROVIDED THE TRAUMA PATIENT IN THE PRE-HOSPITAL AND HOSPITAL SETTING IS CRUCIAL TO PATIENT SURVIVAL AND THE PREVENTION OF LONG-TERM DISABILITY.

(2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS THAT THERE IS A COMPELLING NEED TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE INTEGRATED STATEWIDE TRAUMA SYSTEM IN ORDER TO ASSURE THAT APPROPRIATE RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO TRAUMA VICTIMS FROM THE POINT OF INJURY THROUGH REHABILITATION. SUCH A SYSTEM IS ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE COLORADO RESIDENTS AND VISITORS WITH THE MAXIMUM OPPORTUNITY TO SURVIVE A LIFE-THREATENING EVENT AND TO REDUCE BOTH MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY.

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*Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.*

**25-3.5-702. Statewide trauma system - development - report.**

(1) CONSISTENT WITH THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 25-3.5-701 AND SECTION 25-3.5-102, THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT, REFERRED TO IN THIS PART 7 AS THE "DIVISION", SHALL DEVELOP AN INTEGRATED STATEWIDE TRAUMA SYSTEM WHICH SHALL, AT A MINIMUM, PROVIDE OR PROMOTE ACCESS TO AND STANDARDS FOR PRE-HOSPITAL CARE, HOSPITAL CARE, REHABILITATIVE CARE, PREVENTIVE CARE, DISASTER MEDICAL CARE, EDUCATION, RESEARCH, COMMUNICATIONS, AND COSTS OF TRAUMA CARE IN A MANNER WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH RECOGNIZED NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE SYSTEMS. SUCH SYSTEM SHALL INVOLVE ALL APPROPRIATE HEALTHCARE AGENCIES, INSTITUTIONS, FACILITIES, AND PROVIDERS ON THE NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LEVEL. THE DIVISION SHALL CONSULT WITH SUCH HEALTH CARE AGENCIES, INSTITUTIONS, FACILITIES, AND PROVIDERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYSTEM. THE DIVISION SHALL DEVELOP THE STATEWIDE TRAUMA SYSTEM WITHIN EXISTING STATE APPROPRIATIONS AND, WHENEVER POSSIBLE, SEEK AND ACCEPT GRANTS FROM ANY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SOURCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING, IMPROVING, OR OPERATING THE SYSTEM.

(2) (a) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15, 1993, THE DIVISION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT SETTING FORTH A PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STATEWIDE TRAUMA SYSTEM TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. SUCH PLAN SHALL SET FORTH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION AS NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE SYSTEM, DEFINE THE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE SYSTEM, AND SET DEADLINES FOR COMPLETION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STATEWIDE TRAUMA SYSTEM.

(b) THIS SUBSECTION (2) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1995.

**SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: April 29, 1993