

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 24-4—sSB 181

Public Health Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT CROWDING

SUMMARY: This act generally requires each in-state hospital with an emergency department, starting by January 1, 2025, and until January 1, 2029, to annually analyze certain data from its emergency department (ED). It also allows exclusively state-run hospitals to do this. Hospitals may analyze the data directly or in consultation with an in-state hospital association.

Hospitals must use the analysis with the goals of (1) developing policies or procedures to reduce admission wait times after a patient presents to the ED, (2) informing potential ways to improve admission efficiencies, and (3) examining root causes for admission delays.

Specifically, the data must include the prior year's:

1. number of patients treated in the ED;
2. number of patients admitted to the hospital after being seen in the ED, with their average time from first presentation to the ED until admission; and
3. percentage of patients admitted to the hospital after presenting to the ED who were transferred to an available bed outside of the ED more than four hours after the patient's admitting order was completed.

Under the act, each hospital conducting this analysis must annually report to the Public Health Committee, starting by March 1, 2025, and until March 1, 2029, on its findings and any recommendations to achieve the goals above.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage