



PACEP Feedback on House Bill 825 (Psychiatric and Detoxification Bed Registry)

The Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians (PACEP) appreciates the opportunity to weigh in on the psychiatric and detoxification bed registry details proposed in Rep. Heffley's House Bill 825. After reviewing the legislation, PACEP has the following questions and insight:

- **We appreciate the proposed inclusion of detoxification beds in the bed tracking registry.**
 - Tracking the availability of detoxification beds is an essential component in the transfer of patients from the emergency department to psychiatric and/or detoxification facilities.
- **Where will the registry be housed and displayed?**
- **Will this be a website that is available to the public or only to health care providers?**
 - In section 3(d), the bill states that in order to access the registry, “a facility or licensed provider must comply with subsection (b)”, implying that the psychiatric and detoxification bed registry would only be available to the facilities participating in the registry. PACEP suggests that the registry also be available to emergency departments and hospitals (and potentially the public) so that emergency physicians can make timely decisions about where to transfer patients in need.
- **How often will the registry be updated?**
 - In order for the registry to be most useful and effective, updates should be made hourly. (Ideally, the registry should feature “live” updates; the more timely, the more beneficial).
- **Will the registry include information regarding which insurance is accepted by receiving facilities?**
- **Will non-participating facilities be penalized?**
 - PACEP believes that the psychiatric/detoxification bed registry cannot be voluntary or allow facilities to opt-out.