BR 30 An Act relating to freestanding birthing centers

Summary

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 216B to define "freestanding birthing center";

Require the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to promulgate administrative regulations to establish licensure standards for freestanding birthing centers;

Establish criteria for a medical director;

Establish requirements for obtaining written informed consent;

Require a written patient transfer agreement with a hospital that provides obstetric services;

Require a written patient transfer agreement with an emergency medical transportation service;

Exempt a center with no more than four beds from certificate-of-need requirements for establishing and licensing a freestanding birthing center;

State intent not to limit or expand liability of a center or health care provider or facility;

Require medical malpractice insurance for freestanding birthing centers;

Prohibit abortions in freestanding birthing centers;

Amend KRS 216B.015 to include freestanding birthing centers in the definition of "health facility";

Amend KRS 216B.020, 196.173, 211.122, 211.647, 211.660, 213.046, 214.155, 214.565, 214.567, 214.569, 216.2920, 216.2921, 216.2923, 216.2925, 216.2927, and 216.2970 to conform;

Require the cabinet to promulgate updated administrative regulations by December 1, 2025;

Provide that the Act may be cited as the Mary Carol Akers Birth Centers Act.