

SB 5616-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Creates the health sciences and services program to promote bioscience-based economic development and advance new therapies and procedures to combat disease and promote public health.

Authorizes the department to approve applications submitted by local governments for an area's designation as a health sciences and services authority under this act.

Provides that the department may develop criteria to evaluate the application, including: (1) The presence of infrastructure capable of spurring development of the area as a center of health sciences and services;

(2) The presence of higher education facilities where undergraduate or graduate coursework or research is conducted; and

(3) The presence of facilities in which health services are provided.

Declares there shall be no more than two authorities statewide.

Declares an authority may only be created in a county with a population of less than one million persons.