

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2995

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 24, 2010

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman NANCY F. MUNOZ**

**District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires hospitals to maintain passive audio or visual mechanism for alerting emergency department staff to presence of non-ambulance vehicles containing patients.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning hospital emergency departments and  
2 supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. A general hospital licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136  
8 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) shall maintain a continuous passive audio or  
9 visual mechanism for alerting emergency department staff, at any  
10 time of the day, to the presence of a non-ambulance vehicle in the  
11 ambulance bay or emergency parking lot that contains a person  
12 seeking emergency medical care.

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14 2. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, pursuant  
15 to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-  
16 1 et seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the  
17 purposes of this act.

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19 3. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after enactment,  
20 but the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services may take such  
21 anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof as shall be  
22 necessary for the implementation of this act.

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#### STATEMENT

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27 This bill requires each licensed general hospital in the State to  
28 maintain a continuous passive audio or visual mechanism for  
29 alerting its emergency department staff, at any time of the day, to  
30 the presence of a non-ambulance vehicle in the ambulance bay or  
31 emergency parking lot that contains a person seeking emergency  
32 medical care.

33 The bill takes effect on the 180th day after enactment, but  
34 authorizes the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services to take  
35 anticipatory administrative action in advance as necessary for its  
36 implementation.

37 The purpose of this bill is to ensure that a patient in need of  
38 emergency care who arrives at the hospital in a vehicle other than  
39 an ambulance (whether or not the arrival is during normal business  
40 hours) and who (due to an emergency medical condition) is unable  
41 to exit the vehicle and enter the emergency department without  
42 assistance, can gain entry to the emergency department in a timely  
43 manner appropriate to the person's condition and need for care.