

ASSEMBLY, No. 3059

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 24, 2010

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman NANCY F. MUNOZ

District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Directs hospitals to establish protocols for dispatch and patient transport by specialty care transportation units used for inter-facility transfers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning specialty care transportation units 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. A general hospital licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136
8 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) shall establish protocols to ensure immediate
9 dispatch, timely patient pick-up from the sending hospital, and
10 transport to the receiving hospital by a specialty care transportation
11 unit (SCTU) used for patient inter-facility transfers.

12 b. A general hospital shall establish contingency SCTU
13 transport protocols in the event that the hospital's designated SCTU
14 is not immediately available for dispatch.

15 c. A hospital shall submit its protocols established pursuant to
16 this section to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services for
17 review.

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19 2. The commissioner shall adopt, pursuant to the
20 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
21 seq.), rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.

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23 3. This act shall take effect on the 90th day after enactment, but
24 the commissioner may take such anticipatory administrative action in
25 advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this
26 act.

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STATEMENT

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31 This bill directs general hospitals, licensed under P.L.1971,
32 c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.), to establish protocols to ensure
33 immediate dispatch, timely patient pick-up from the sending
34 hospital, and transport to the receiving hospital by a specialty care
35 transportation unit (SCTU) used for patient inter-facility transfers.
36 In addition, this bill requires hospitals to establish contingency
37 SCTU transport protocols in the event that a hospital's SCTU is not
38 immediately available for dispatch. This bill also requires hospitals
39 to submit its protocols to the Commissioner of Health and Senior
40 Services for review.

41 SCTUs provide transport between health care facilities for those
42 patients requiring a standard of care greater than that of a Basic Life
43 Support ambulance. SCTUs transport high level acuity, critically ill
44 and compromised patients between health care facilities when
45 patients' needs exceed a level of care currently available to them.
46 SCTUs are generally stocked with advanced life support equipment,
47 including, but not limited to, medications, cardiac monitoring

1 equipment, and ventilators, and are staffed with skilled health care
2 professionals.

3 The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) licenses
4 SCTU providers. Currently, there are 31 SCTU providers licensed
5 by DHSS.

6 Under this bill, the commissioner is to adopt, pursuant to the
7 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
8 seq.), rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this bill.

9 The bill takes effect on the 90th day after enactment, but
10 authorizes the commissioner to take anticipatory administrative
11 action in advance as necessary for its implementation.