

# ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 1342**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 10, 2010

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1342.

As amended by the committee, this bill renames the "New Jersey Trauma Center" at University Hospital in Newark, which is the principal teaching hospital of the New Jersey Medical School at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), after the late Dr. Eric Munoz (1947-2009), who served as a member of the General Assembly from 2001 to 2009 and as a member of this committee from 2004 to 2009.

The trauma center, to be known as the "Eric Munoz Trauma Center," is the sole Level I Trauma Center for the densely populated region of northern New Jersey and, with its multiple missions of clinical service, research, and education, is a leader in the advancement of trauma care in New Jersey and nationwide.

A 1974 graduate of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Dr. Munoz was a professor of surgery at the UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School and worked as a trauma surgeon at the New Jersey Trauma Center from 1988 until his death on March 30, 2009. By renaming the trauma center after Dr. Munoz, this bill honors, and will help to sustain the memory of, his service as a long-time, dedicated trauma surgeon and professor of surgery at UMDNJ.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2504 ACA (Coutinho/Quijano/Bramnick), which the committee also reported on this date.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments to the bill make a technical revision that directs the board of trustees of UMDNJ, rather than the board of directors of University Hospital, to rename the "New Jersey Trauma Center" as the "Eric Munoz Trauma Center."