

ASSEMBLY, No. 1554

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 15, 1996

By Assemblyman BAGGER and Assemblywoman
VANDERVALK

1 AN ACT concerning the use of cardiac defibrillation and amending
2 P.L.1989, c.314.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1989, c.314 (C.26:2K-39) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. As used in this act:

10 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Health.

11 "Emergency medical service" means a program in a hospital staffed
12 24 hours-a-day by a licensed physician trained in emergency medicine.

13 "Emergency medical technician" means a person trained in basic life
14 support services as defined in section 1 of P.L.1985, c.351
15 (C.26:2K-21) and who is certified by the Department of Health to
16 perform these services.

17 "EMT-D" means an emergency medical technician who is certified
18 by the commissioner to perform cardiac defibrillation.

19 "First Responder" means a police officer, firefighter or other person
20 who has been trained to provide emergency medical first response
21 services in a program recognized by the commissioner.

22 "First Responder-D" means a First Responder who is certified by
23 the commissioner to perform cardiac defibrillation.

24 "Pre-hospital care" means those emergency medical services
25 rendered to emergency patients at the scene of a traffic accident or
26 other emergency and during transportation to emergency treatment
27 facilities, and upon arrival within those facilities.

28 (cf: P.L.1989, c.314, s.1)

29

30 2. Section 2 of P.L.1989, c.314 (C.26:2K-40) is amended to read
31 as follows:

32 2. a. An emergency medical technician who has been certified by
33 the commissioner as an EMT-D may perform cardiac defibrillation,

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 with or without the assistance of another EMT-D, according to rules
2 and regulations adopted by the commissioner. A person who has been
3 certified by the commissioner as a First Responder-D may perform
4 cardiac defibrillation, with or without the assistance of an EMT-D or
5 another First Responder-D, according to rules and regulations adopted
6 by the commissioner.

7 b. The commissioner shall establish written standards and
8 application procedures which an emergency medical technician shall
9 meet in order to obtain certification as an EMT-D, and which a person
10 shall meet in order to obtain certification as a First Responder-D. The
11 commissioner shall certify a candidate who provides evidence of
12 satisfactory completion of an educational program which includes
13 training in the performance of cardiac defibrillation and which is
14 approved by the commissioner, and who passes an examination in the
15 performance of cardiac defibrillation which is approved by the
16 commissioner.

17 c. The commissioner shall maintain a register of all applications for
18 certification as an EMT-D or a First Responder-D which shall include,
19 but not be limited to:

- 20 (1) The name and residence of the applicant;
21 (2) The date of the application;
22 (3) Whether the applicant was rejected or approved and the date
23 of that action.

24 d. The commissioner shall annually compile a list of certified
25 EMT-D's and First Responder-D's which shall be available to the
26 public.

27 e. A fee may be charged to a person who is enrolled in an
28 educational program approved by the Department of Health which
29 includes training in the performance of cardiac defibrillation, to cover
30 the costs of training and testing for certification as an EMT-D or a
31 First Responder-D.

32 (cf: P.L.1989, c.314, s.2)

33

34 3. Section 3 of P.L.1989, c.314 (C.26:2K-41) is amended to read
35 as follows:

36 3. The commissioner, after notice and hearing, may revoke the
37 certification of an EMT-D or a First Responder-D for violation of any
38 provisions of this act or of any rule or regulation adopted pursuant to
39 this act.

40 (cf: P.L.1989, c.314, s.3)

41

42 4. Section 4 of P.L.1989, c.314 (C.26:2K-42) is amended to read
43 as follows:

44 4. a. A person shall not advertise or disseminate information to the
45 public that the person is an EMT-D or a First Responder-D unless the
46 person is authorized to do so pursuant to this act.

1 EMT-D's to perform cardiac defibrillation, to permit first-responding
2 emergency personnel, including police and firefighters, to be certified
3 as First Responder-D's who would perform cardiac defibrillation on
4 the same basis as EMT-D's.

5 Early defibrillation has become the standard of care for patients
6 with prehospital or in-hospital cardiac arrest, and the availability of
7 automated external defibrillators (AED's) has broadened the range of
8 people with the capability of performing cardiac defibrillation. This
9 bill will expand the number of persons who may provide cardiac
10 defibrillation services to traffic accident victims or other emergency
11 care provides trained in all aspects of advanced cardiac life support;
12 however, it is now often performed by personnel with less training
13 who are able to use AED's which makes early defibrillation practical
14 and achievable for many more people than before. AED's were
15 conceived as devices that would be used by emergency personnel and
16 by family members and associates of people at high risk of sudden
17 cardiac death. This bill recognizes the need for police and fire
18 personnel to be able to use these devices, because they are often the
19 first persons to respond to someone in cardiac arrest, when early
20 defibrillation is critical.

21

22

23

24

25 _____
Permits police and firefighters to perform cardiac defibrillation.