

ASSEMBLY, No. 2130

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 3, 1996

By Assemblywomen **WRIGHT, VANDERVALK**, Assemblymen
Asselta and Garrett

1 AN ACT concerning home health care and supplementing P.L.1991,
2 c.377 (C. 45:11-45 et seq.).

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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. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the
8 contrary, a home health care agency licensed pursuant to P.L.1971,
9 c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) or its employees who are registered
10 professional nurses may purchase, store or transport for the purpose
11 of administering to their home health patients the following
12 noncontrolled drugs: sterile saline solution, sterile water,
13 adrenalin/epinephrine, benedryl and heparin flush solution. Such drugs
14 shall only be administered pursuant to a standing order by a health care
15 professional licensed to prescribe drugs in New Jersey.

16 The New Jersey Board of Nursing, in consultation with the New
17 Jersey Board of Pharmacy, may adopt rules and regulations
18 establishing minimum standards for the purchase, storage, handling,
19 use and disposal of such drugs pursuant to this act.

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21 2. This act shall take effect on the 60th day after enactment.

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STATEMENT

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26 This bill would permit home health agency nurses to carry various
27 noncontrolled prescription drugs without a specific patient
28 prescription. These drugs include sterile saline solution, sterile water,
29 adrenalin/epinephrine, benedryl and heparin flush solution which are
30 often needed by home care nurses for both routine and emergency use.
31 The bill would enable home health agencies to stock such medications
32 and allow their nurses to carry and use them in situations where a
33 health care professional has prescribed their use. Several states,
34 including New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, Texas,

1 Michigan, Arkansas, California and New Mexico, have passed similar
2 legislation permitting home health agency nurses to carry saline
3 solution and sterile water.

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8 Allows home health care agencies to possess and administer certain
9 noncontrolled prescription drugs.