

SENATE, No. 1935

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 20, 1997

By Senators SINGER and CIESLA

1 AN ACT establishing a Pre-Hospital Advisory Council and
2 supplementing chapter 2K of 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. The Legislature finds and declares that it is the policy of this
8 State to ensure that its residents and visitors have access to a
9 comprehensive emergency medical services system that is State-
10 coordinated, reasonably regulated, community-based and fully
11 integrated with the overall health care system.

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13 2. As used in this act:

14 a. "Advisory council" means the Pre-Hospital Care Advisory
15 Council.

16 b. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department of
17 Health and Senior Services.

18 c. "Department" means the State Department of Health and Senior
19 Services.

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21 3. a. There is created the Pre-Hospital Care Advisory Council.
22 The council shall advise the New Jersey Department of Health and
23 Senior Services and the Legislature on all matters concerning
24 advanced and basic life support transport services.

25 b. The advisory council shall consist of nine members appointed for
26 a term of two years. Membership of the advisory council shall include:
27 two members of the General Assembly, appointed by the Speaker of
28 the General Assembly, who shall not be of the same political party;
29 two members of the Senate appointed by the Senate President, who
30 shall not be of the same political party; and the President of the New
31 Jersey State First Aid Council. The Commissioner shall appoint four
32 members as follows: one member representing a hospital with a mobile
33 intensive care unit licensed in New Jersey; one member of a private,
34 licensed ambulance company; one member of a citizens' organization
35 concerned with pre-hospital care issues; and one nationally recognized
36 expert in the field of advanced and basic life support transport
37 services.

1 c. The General Assembly member appointed from the Majority
2 party shall chair the advisory council. The chairperson may select a
3 vice-chairperson from among the council members.

4 The council shall organize no later than 60 days after the effective
5 date of this act, and shall meet on a schedule determined by the
6 chairperson, but no less than quarterly. Any vacant position on the
7 advisory council, otherwise than by expiration of term, shall be filled
8 for the unexpired term in the same manner as that position would be
9 filled at the expiration of term. The council may further organize itself
10 as it deems appropriate.

11 d. Members of the advisory council shall serve without
12 compensation, but public members shall be reimbursed for the
13 reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, within
14 the limits of funds available to the council.

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16 4. It shall be the duty of the advisory council to investigate the
17 effectiveness of the emergency health services system and the
18 problems that may exist in the administration and delivery of services,
19 and to recommend the steps needed to resolve problems or deficits
20 within the system. The council shall also advise the department on the
21 formulation of policy regarding advanced and basic life support
22 transport services.

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24 5. The advisory council shall annually submit a report of its
25 recommendations to the Commissioner, the Speaker of the General
26 Assembly and the President of the Senate.

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28 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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31 STATEMENT

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33 This bill would establish the Pre-Hospital Care Advisory Council.
34 The council would advise the New Jersey Department of Health and
35 Senior Services (DHSS) and the New Jersey Legislature on all matters
36 concerning advanced and basic life support transport services and
37 assist in the formulation of DHSS policy concerning these services. It
38 would be the duty of the advisory council to investigate the
39 effectiveness of the emergency health services system and the
40 problems that may exist in the administration and with delivery of
41 services, and to recommend the steps needed to resolve problems or
42 deficits within the system. The advisory council would consist of nine
43 members who serve two year terms, would meet at least quarterly and
44 file annually a report of its recommendations.

45 The advisory council would consist of the following: two members
46 of the General Assembly, appointed by the Speaker, who would not be

1 of the same political party; two members of the Senate appointed by
2 the Senate President, who would not be of the same political party;
3 and the President of the New Jersey State First Aid Council. The
4 Commissioner would appoint four members as follows: one member
5 representing a hospital with a mobile intensive care unit licensed in
6 New Jersey; one member of a private, licensed ambulance company;
7 one member of a citizens' organization concerned with pre-hospital
8 care issues; and one nationally recognized expert in the field of
9 advanced and basic life support transport services.

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14 Establishes Pre-Hospital Care Advisory Council.