

[First Reprint]  
SENATE, No. 2002

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED APRIL 17, 1997

By Senators CIESLA and PALAIA

1 AN ACT concerning mobile intensive care units and supplementing  
2 P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7 et seq.).

3

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:

8 a. The citizens of New Jersey have become accustomed to, and rely  
9 upon, a high-quality emergency medical services system; and the  
10 various entities which comprise that system, including the many  
11 agencies, both paid and volunteer, which provide basic life support  
12 services, the 36 authorized mobile intensive care units, and the two  
13 programs which provide airborne emergency medical transportation,  
14 have functioned as a team to deliver care in a timely and efficient  
15 manner;

16 b. More than 90% of the residents of this State receive basic life  
17 support treatment and transportation from a volunteer emergency  
18 medical services agency;

19 c. Changing socioeconomic conditions have impacted heavily upon  
20 many volunteer emergency medical services agencies, impairing their  
21 ability to respond to calls for assistance at certain times; and this  
22 impairment has created a state of emergency which endangers the lives  
23 and safety of New Jersey citizens; and

24 d. The authorized mobile intensive care units, in conjunction with  
25 many volunteer emergency medical services agencies, have developed  
26 an effective and efficient means of addressing this problem through the  
27 provisions of this act.

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29 2. An authorized mobile intensive care unit operating pursuant to  
30 P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7 et seq.) as of the effective date of this act,  
31 which elects to operate one or more transport-capable ambulances as

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> Senate SHH committee amendments adopted May 15, 1997.

1 a mobile intensive care unit vehicle, may, in the course of responding  
2 to a call for emergency medical assistance, transport a patient to an  
3 appropriate emergency treatment facility, at the discretion of a mobile  
4 intensive care paramedic or registered professional nurse staffing the  
5 mobile intensive care unit<sup>1</sup> vehicle, if <sup>1</sup>:(a) the mobile intensive care  
6 paramedic or registered professional nurse staffing the mobile intensive  
7 care unit has completed all field treatment of the patient; (b)<sup>1</sup> the  
8 primary basic life support ambulance service provider for that  
9 municipality has not arrived <sup>1</sup>with an emergency ambulance, or its  
10 arrival is not imminent,<sup>1</sup> at the scene of the medical emergency at the  
11 time the paramedic or nurse determines that it is necessary to transport  
12 the patient to an emergency treatment facility <sup>1</sup>; and (c) the paramedic  
13 or nurse has made appropriate inquiries regarding the response status  
14 of the municipality's primary basic life support ambulance provider.

15 Nothing in this act shall be construed to alter normal patient-flow  
16 patterns for mobile intensive care units or primary basic life support  
17 ambulance providers<sup>1</sup>.

18

19 3. The provisions of section 2 of this act shall constitute a waiver  
20 to any certificate of need issued to a hospital to develop and maintain  
21 a mobile intensive care unit pursuant to P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7  
22 et seq.), which shall authorize that unit to operate one or more  
23 transport-capable ambulances as a mobile intensive care unit vehicle  
24 in accordance with regulations adopted by the commissioner.

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26 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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31 Permits mobile intensive care unit to transport patient to emergency  
32 treatment facility.