

SENATE, No. 2149

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 5, 1997

By Senator LITTELL

1 AN ACT concerning the interception of official communications and  
2 amending P.L.1991, c.432.

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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. Section 1 of P.L.1991, c.432 (C.2C:33-21) is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 1. Any person who intercepts any message or transmission made  
10 on or over any police, fire or emergency medical communications  
11 system, or any person who is the recipient of information so  
12 intercepted, and who uses the information obtained thereby to  
13 facilitate the commission of or the attempt to commit a crime or a  
14 violation of any law of this State, or uses the same in a manner which  
15 interferes with the discharge of police or firefighting operations or  
16 provision of medical services by first aid, rescue or ambulance squad  
17 personnel, shall be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

18 (cf: P.L.1991, c.432, s.1)

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20 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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25 This bill makes it a crime to "jump" official emergency calls. Under  
26 the bill, a person who uses information intercepted from police, fire or  
27 emergency medical communications systems to interfere with  
28 responding first aid, rescue or ambulance squad members or  
29 firefighters rendering assistance would be guilty of a fourth-degree  
30 crime. It is currently a fourth-degree crime to use such intercepted  
31 information to commit a crime or interfere with the discharge of police  
32 operations. Fourth-degree crimes are punishable by a term of  
33 imprisonment not to exceed 18 months, a maximum fine of \$7,500, or  
34 both.

**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.**

1       The purpose of the bill is to enhance public safety by deterring  
2 persons from disrupting medical personnel and firefighters during  
3 emergencies.

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8 Criminalizes "jumping" emergency calls.