ASSEMBLY, No. 2095

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 11, 2010

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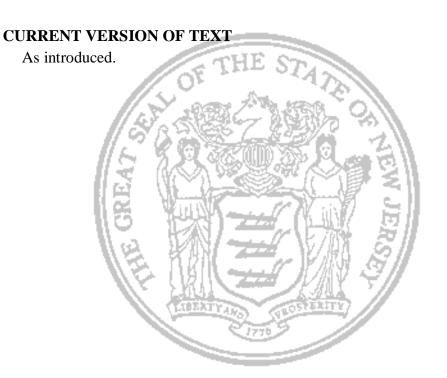
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District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Coughlin, Prieto and Assemblywoman Wagner

SYNOPSIS

Revises requirements for emergency medical services delivery.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/21/2011)

1 AN ACT concerning emergency medical services, supplementing 2 Title 26 of the Revised Statutes and revising various parts of the 3 statutory law.

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

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- 8 1. Section 1 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7) is amended to read 9 as follows:
- 10 1. As used in [this act] chapter 2K of Title 26 of the Revised
 11 Statutes:
 - [a.] "Advanced life support" means an advanced level of [pre-hospital, inter-hospital, and emergency service] care which includes basic life support functions, cardiac monitoring, cardiac defibrillation, telemetered electrocardiography, administration of anti-arrhythmic agents, intravenous therapy, administration of specific medications, drugs and solutions, use of adjunctive ventilation devices, trauma care, and other techniques and procedures authorized in writing by the commissioner[;].
- 20 <u>"Agency" means an organization that is licensed or otherwise</u> 21 <u>authorized by the department to operate a pre-hospital or inter-facility care ambulance service.</u>
 - "Air medical unit" means a helicopter operating under an air medical program licensed by the department and staffed in accordance with regulations developed by the commissioner in consultation with EMCAB.
 - "Basic life support" means a basic level of pre-hospital care or inter-facility care which includes patient stabilization, airway clearance, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, hemorrhage control, initial wound care, fracture stabilization, and other techniques and procedures authorized in writing by the commissioner.
- 32 **[**b.**]** "Board of Medical Examiners" means the State Board of Medical Examiners [;].
- Ic.] "Board of Nursing" means the New Jersey State Board of Nursing[;].
- "Clinician" means a person who is licensed or otherwise
 authorized to provide patient care in a pre-hospital care or interfacility care setting.
- Jegartment of Health; Health and Senior Services.
- [e.] "Department" means the [State] Department of Health[;] and Senior Services.
- [f.] "Emergency [service] department" means a program in a

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

- 1 general hospital staffed 24 hours a day by a licensed physician
- 2 trained in emergency medicine[;] and as prescribed by regulation
- 3 <u>of the commissioner.</u>
- 4 "EMCAB" means the Emergency Medical Care Advisory Board
- 5 <u>established pursuant to section 13 of P.L.</u>, c. (C.)(pending
- 6 <u>before the Legislature as this bill).</u>
- 7 "Emergency medical responder" means a person trained to
- 8 provide emergency medical first response services in a program
- 9 recognized by the commissioner and licensed or otherwise
- authorized by the department to provide those services.
- 11 "Emergency medical services personnel" means persons trained
- 12 and licensed or otherwise authorized to provide emergency medical
- care, whether on a paid or volunteer basis, as part of a basic life
- 14 <u>support or advanced life support pre-hospital care service or in an</u>
- 15 <u>emergency department in a general hospital.</u>
- 16 "Emergency medical technician" or "EMT" means a person
- 17 trained to provide basic life support services in a program
- 18 recognized by the commissioner and licensed or otherwise
- 19 <u>authorized by the department to provide those services.</u>
- 20 "EMS Training Fund" means the Emergency Medical Services
- 21 Training Fund established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.143
- 22 (C.26:2K-56).
- 23 "EMSC Advisory Council" means the Emergency Medical
- 24 Services for Children Advisory Council established pursuant to
- 25 <u>section 5 of P.L.1992, c.96 (C.26:2K-52).</u>
- 26 "EMSC coordinator" means the person coordinating the EMSC
- 27 program within the Office of Emergency Medical Services in the
- department.
- 29 "EMSC program" means the Emergency Medical Services for
- 30 Children program established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992,
- 31 c.96 (C.26:2K-50), and other relevant programmatic activities
- 32 conducted by the Office of Emergency Medical Services in the
- 33 <u>department in support of appropriate treatment, transport, and triage</u>
- 34 <u>of ill or injured children in New Jersey.</u>
- 35 **[**g. "Inter-hospital care" means those emergency medical
- 36 services rendered by mobile intensive care units to emergency
- 37 patients before and during transportation between emergency
- treatment facilities, and upon arrival within those facilities;
- 39 "Health care facility" means a health care facility licensed
- 40 pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.).
- 41 "Inter-facility care" means those medical services rendered to
- 42 patients by emergency medical services personnel before and during
- 43 <u>transportation between medical facilities, and upon arrival at those</u>
- 44 <u>facilities</u>.
- 45 **[**h. "Mobile intensive care paramedic" means a person trained in
- advanced life support services and certified by the commissioner to

render advanced life support services as part of a mobile intensive care unit;

- [i.] "Mobile intensive care unit" means a specialized emergency medical service vehicle that is operating under a mobile intensive care program pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-12) and is staffed by [mobile intensive care] paramedics or registered professional nurses Itrained in advanced life support nursing and operated for the provision of advanced life support services recognized as mobile intensive care nurses, or other personnel authorized by the commissioner, under the medical direction of an authorized hospital[;].
 - "9-1-1 call" means a 9-1-1 telephone call for emergency medical services in which the caller dials 9-1-1, or a method adopted in the future to initiate the response of emergency medical services for a medical reason through a public safety answering point as defined in section 1 of P.L.1989, c.3 (C.52:17C-1).
 - "Paramedic" means a person licensed or otherwise authorized by the commissioner as an Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic pursuant to regulation of the commissioner. Whenever, in any law, rule, regulation, order, contract, document, judicial, or administrative proceeding, or otherwise, reference is made to a mobile intensive care paramedic, the same shall mean and refer to an Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic.
 - [j.] "Pre-hospital care" means those [emergency medical services rendered by mobile intensive care units to emergency] medical services rendered to patients by emergency medical services personnel before and during transportation to [emergency treatment] medical facilities, and upon arrival within those facilities.
 - "Regional trauma center" means a State designated level one hospital-based trauma center equipped and staffed to provide emergency medical services to an accident or trauma victim. (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s.1)

33 (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s.: 34

- 2. Section 2 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-8) is amended to read as follows:
- 2. a. (1) A [mobile intensive care] paramedic shall obtain [certification] licensure from the commissioner to staff a mobile intensive care unit or a health care facility and shall make application therefor on forms prescribed by the commissioner.
- (2) An EMT shall obtain licensure from the commissioner to staff a licensed ambulance or a health care facility and shall make application therefor on forms prescribed by the commissioner.
- 44 (3) An emergency medical responder shall obtain licensure from 45 the commissioner to respond to 9-1-1 calls and shall make 46 application therefor on forms prescribed by the commissioner.

- 1 The commissioner [with the approval of the board of 2 medical examiners shall establish written standards which a 3 mobile intensive care paramedic an applicant shall meet in order to 4 obtain [certification] licensure as a paramedic, EMT, or emergency 5 medical responder. The commissioner shall act on a regular basis 6 upon applications of candidates for [certification] licensure as a 7 [mobile intensive care] paramedic, EMT, or emergency medical 8 responder. The commissioner shall [certify] license a candidate 9 who provides satisfactory evidence of the successful completion of 10 an educational program approved by the commissioner for the 11 training of [mobile intensive care] paramedics, EMTs, or 12 emergency medical responders, as applicable, and who passes an 13 examination [in the provision of advance life support services] 14 approved by the department for the applicable licensure, which 15 examination shall be conducted by the department at least twice a 16 year.
- 17 c. The department shall maintain a register of all applicants for 18 [certification] <u>licensure</u> hereunder, which register shall include but 19 not be limited to:
 - (1) The name and residence of the applicant;
 - (2) The date of the application;
- 22 (3) Information as to whether the applicant was rejected or 23 [certified] <u>licensed</u> and the date of that action.
- The department shall [annually compile a] <u>maintain a current</u> list of [mobile intensive care] paramedics <u>and EMTs</u>. This list shall be available to the public <u>on the Internet website of the department</u>.
- 28 (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s.2)

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- 30 3. Section 3 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-9) is amended to read as follows:
- 32 3. The commissioner, after notice and hearing, may revoke the [certification] <u>license</u> of a [mobile intensive care] paramedic, 34 <u>EMT</u>, or emergency medical responder for violation of any provision of [this act] <u>P.L.1984</u>, <u>c.146</u> (<u>C.26:2K-7 et seq.</u>) or regulation promulgated hereunder.
- 37 (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s.3)

- 39 4. Section 4 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-10) is amended to 40 read as follows:
- 41 4. A [mobile intensive care] paramedic may [perform]
 42 provide advanced life support services, provided [they maintain]
 43 that the paramedic:
- 44 <u>a. maintains</u> direct voice communication with and [are] <u>is</u>
 45 taking orders from a licensed physician or physician directed
 46 registered professional nurse, both of whom are affiliated with a

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- mobile intensive care [hospital which is approved by the commissioner to provide advanced life support services. A telemetered electrocardiogram shall be monitored when deemed appropriate by the licensed physician or when required by written rules and regulations established by the mobile intensive care hospital and approved by the commissioner] program operating pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-12); or
 - b. is operating under standing orders from a licensed physician that have been developed or approved by a mobile intensive care program.

11 (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s.4)

- 5. Section 6 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-12) is amended to read as follows:
- 6. a. Only a hospital [authorized by the commissioner with an accredited emergency service may develop and maintain a mobile intensive care unit, and provide advanced life support services utilizing licensed physicians, registered professional nurses trained in advanced life support nursing, and mobile intensive care paramedics licensed by the department to operate a mobile intensive care program may develop or maintain such a program. At a minimum, the hospital shall be required to maintain an emergency department.
 - b. A hospital authorized by the commissioner pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall provide mobile intensive care unit services on a seven-day-a-week basis.
 - c. The commissioner shall establish, [in writing] by regulation, criteria which a hospital shall meet in order to [qualify for the authorization] obtain licensure to operate a mobile intensive care program, and shall prescribe, in those regulations, standards and responsibilities for the position of medical director for the program. A hospital operating a mobile intensive care program prior to, or on the effective date of, P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), shall be required to meet any new requirements for such licensure as may be established by the commissioner by the date that the hospital is required to apply for renewal of its license to operate a mobile intensive care program.
- d. The commissioner [may withdraw his authorization] shall provide by regulation for enforcement of the provisions of chapter 2K of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes, up to and including revocation of licensure to operate a mobile intensive care program if the hospital or unit violates any provision [of this act] thereof or rules or regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

44 (cf: P.L. 1985, c.351, s. 2)

6. (New section) a. The commissioner shall not issue an initial license or other authorization to practice as a clinician unless the

- 1 commissioner first determines that no criminal history record
- 2 information exists on file in the Federal Bureau of Investigation,
- 3 Identification Division, or in the State Bureau of Identification in
- 4 the Division of State Police, which may disqualify the applicant
- 5 from being licensed or otherwise authorized to practice as a
- 6 clinician as determined by regulation of the commissioner.

- b. (1) The commissioner shall not renew a license or other authorization to practice as a clinician unless the commissioner first determines that no criminal history record information exists on file in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Identification Division, or in the State Bureau of Identification in the Division of State Police, which may provide grounds for the refusal to renew the license or other authorization to practice as a clinician.
- (2) The commissioner shall revoke a license or other authorization to practice as a clinician if the commissioner determines that criminal history record information exists on file in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Identification Division, or in the State Bureau of Identification in the Division of State Police, which may provide grounds for the refusal to renew the license or other authorization to practice as a clinician.
- c. The commissioner shall establish, by regulation, a schedule of dates by which the requirements of this section shall be implemented no later than four years after the effective date of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
- d. The commissioner may, in an emergent circumstance as determined by the commissioner, temporarily waive the requirement for a person to undergo a criminal history record background check as a condition of new or renewed licensure or other authorization to practice as a clinician.
- e. An applicant or licensee who is required to undergo a criminal history record background check pursuant to this section shall submit to the commissioner that individual's name, address, and fingerprints taken on standard fingerprint cards, or through any equivalent means, by a State or municipal law enforcement agency or by a private entity under contract with the State. The commissioner is authorized to exchange fingerprint data with and receive criminal history record information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Division of State Police for use in making the determinations required pursuant to this section.
- f. Upon receipt of the criminal history record information for an applicant or licensee from the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Division of State Police, the commissioner shall immediately notify the applicant or licensee, as applicable.
- g. If an applicant refuses to consent to, or cooperate in, the securing of a criminal history record background check, the commissioner shall not issue a clinician license and shall notify the applicant of that denial.

- h. If a licensee refuses to consent to, or cooperate in, the securing of a criminal history record background check as required during the licensure or other authorization renewal process, the commissioner shall refuse to renew the license or other authorization of the licensee, without a hearing, and shall notify the licensee of that denial.
 - i. A licensee:

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- (1) who has permitted a license or other authorization to lapse, or whose license, other authorization or privilege has been suspended, revoked, or otherwise, and
- (2) who has not already submitted to a criminal history record background check,
- shall be required to submit fingerprints as part of the licensure or other authorization reinstatement process. If a reinstatement applicant refuses to consent to, or cooperate in, the securing of a criminal history record background check as required during the reinstatement process, the commissioner shall automatically deny reinstatement of the license or other authorization, without a hearing, and shall notify the licensee of that denial.
- j. An applicant for licensure or other authorization to practice as a clinician shall be required to assume the cost of the criminal history record background check conducted pursuant to this section, in accordance with procedures determined by regulation of the commissioner.
- k. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a health care professional who is subject to a criminal history record background check pursuant to P.L.2002, c.104 (C.45:1-28 et al.)
- 7. Section 14 of P.L.1997, c.100 (C.53:1-20.9a) is amended to read as follows:
- 31 14. a. In accordance with the provisions of sections 2 through 6
 32 and sections 7 through 13 of P.L.1997, c.100 (C.26:2H-83 through
 33 87 and C.45:11-24.3 through 24.9) [and], P.L.2002, c.104 (C.45:1-
- 34 28 et al.), and section 6 of P.L. , c. (C.)(pending before the
- 35 <u>Legislature as this bill)</u>, the Division of State Police in the
 36 Department of Law and Public Safety shall conduct a criminal
- history record background check, including a name and fingerprint identification check, of:
- (1) each applicant for nurse aide or personal care assistant certification submitted to the Department of Health and Senior Services and of each applicant for homemaker-home health aide certification submitted to the New Jersey Board of Nursing in the Division of Consumer Affairs;
- 44 (2) each nurse aide or personal care assistant certified by the 45 Department of Health and Senior Services and each homemaker-46 home health aide certified by the New Jersey Board of Nursing, as 47 required pursuant to P.L.1997, c.100 (C.26:2H-83 et al.); [and]

- (3) each applicant for licensure or other authorization to engage in a health care profession who is required to undergo a criminal history record background check pursuant to P.L.2002, c.104 (C.45:1-28 et al.); and
 - (4) each applicant for clinician licensure who is required to undergo a criminal history record background check pursuant to section 6 of P.L. , c. (C.)(pending before the Legislature as this bill).
- b. For the purpose of conducting a criminal history record background check pursuant to subsection a. of this section, the Division of State Police shall examine its own files and arrange for a similar examination by federal authorities. The division shall immediately forward the information obtained as a result of conducting the check to: the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, in the case of an applicant for nurse aide or personal care assistant certification [or], a certified nurse aide or personal care assistant, or an applicant for clinician licensure pursuant to chapter 2K of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes); the New Jersey Board of Nursing in the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in the case of an applicant for homemaker-home health aide certification or a certified homemaker-home health aide; and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in the case of an applicant for licensure or other authorization to practice as a health care professional as defined in section 1 of P.L.2002, c.104 (C.45:1-

27 (cf: P.L.2002, c.104, s.5)

- 8. (New section) a. Only an agency as defined in section 1 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7) may develop or maintain a pre-hospital or inter-facility care ambulance service.
- b. The commissioner shall establish, by regulation, criteria which an agency shall meet in order to obtain licensure to operate a pre-hospital or inter-facility care ambulance service, and shall prescribe in those regulations standards and responsibilities for the position of agency medical director. An agency operating a pre-hospital or inter-facility care ambulance service prior to or on the effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be required to meet any new requirements for such licensure as may be established by the commissioner by the date that the agency is required to apply for renewal of its license to operate the ambulance service.
- c. The commissioner shall provide by regulation for enforcement of the provisions of this section, up to and including revocation of licensure to operate a pre-hospital or inter-facility care ambulance service if the agency violates any provision thereof or rules or regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

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- 9. Section 7 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-13) is amended to read as follows:
- 7. a. No person may advertise or disseminate information to the public that the person provides:
- 5 (1) advanced life support services by a mobile intensive care unit unless the person is authorized to do so pursuant to section 6 of [this act] P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-12); or
- 8 (2) basic life support services by an ambulance unless the person 9 is authorized to do so pursuant to section 8 of P.L., c. (C.) 10 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
- b. No person may impersonate or refer to himself as a [mobile intensive care] paramedic, EMT, or emergency medical responder unless [he is certified or approved therefor, as appropriate] that person is licensed as such.
- 15 (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s.7)

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- 17 10. Section 8 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-14) is amended to read as follows:
- 19 8. No [mobile intensive care] paramedic, EMT, emergency medical responder, other clinician, licensed physician, nurse, 20 mobile intensive care program, hospital or its board of trustees, 21 22 officers and members of the medical staff, Inurses or other 23 employees of the hospital, first aid, ambulance or rescue squad, or 24 officers and members of a rescue squad] or agency or officers, members, or employees thereof, shall be liable for any civil 25 damages as the result of an act or the omission of an act committed 26 27 while in training for or in the rendering of basic or advanced life 28 support services in good faith and in accordance with [this act] 29 chapter 2K of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.
- 30 (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s. 8)

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11. (New section) Under the direction of the commissioner, the Office of Emergency Medical Services in the department shall serve as the lead State agency for the oversight of emergency medical services delivery in the State, including both direct services and support services and funding therefor, and shall have as its basic purpose to ensure the continuous and timely Statewide availability and dispatch of basic life support and advanced life support to all persons in this State, through ground and air, adult and pediatric triage, treatment and transport, emergency response capability. The office shall exercise this responsibility in furtherance of the public policy of this State to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that quality medical care is available to persons residing in or visiting this State at all times.

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12. (New section) The commissioner shall appoint a State Medical Director for Emergency Medical Services, who shall

assume responsibility for medical oversight of emergency medical services delivery in the State. The State medical director shall be a physician who is licensed in this State, has experience in the medical oversight of emergency medical services delivery, and is qualified to perform the duties of the position. The State medical director, subject to the commissioner's approval, may appoint up to three regional medical directors to provide medical oversight of emergency medical services delivery in their respective geographic areas as defined by the State medical director.

- 13. (New section) a. (1) The commissioner shall establish a State Emergency Medical Care Advisory Board, or EMCAB, which shall advise the commissioner on all matters of mobile intensive care services, basic life support services, advanced life support services, and pre-hospital and inter-facility care, and shall focus on: improving quality of care; making patient-centered decisions; and using technology to improve efficiency and the standard of care.
- (2) EMCAB shall recommend standards to be adopted by the commissioner on response time, crew complements, equipment, minimum clinical proficiencies, benchmarking, processes, trending of quality and performance data, and the use of electronic data to support all goals.
- b. EMCAB shall organize as soon as practicable following the appointment of its members and shall hold its initial meeting no later than the 90th day after the effective date of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
- c. (1) The membership of EMCAB shall include 16 members, as follows:
- (a) the commissioner, the Director of the Office of Emergency Medical Services in the department, and the State Medical Director for Emergency Medical Services, or their designees, as ex officio, nonvoting members; and
- (b) 13 public members, who shall initially be appointed by the commissioner and thereafter shall be appointed in a manner to be specified by regulation of the commissioner, including one representative from each of the following: volunteer basic life support services providers; paid basic life support services providers; air medical programs; mobile intensive care programs; emergency physicians; general hospitals; emergency care nurses; municipal government; emergency telecommunications services; county offices of emergency management; trauma services or burn treatment providers; the EMSC program; and a member of the general public who is not involved with the provision of health care or emergency medical services.
- (2) Each public member of EMCAB shall serve for a term of three years and may be reappointed to one or more subsequent terms; except that of the members first appointed, six shall serve for a term of three years, five for a term of two years, and two for a

- term of one year. Vacancies in the membership of EMCAB shall be filled in the same manner provided for the original appointments.
- 3 (3) The members of EMCAB shall serve without compensation, 4 but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the 5 performance of their duties and within the limits of funds available 6 to EMCAB.
 - d. The members of EMCAB shall select a chairman biennially to chair the meetings and coordinate the activities of EMCAB.
- 9 EMCAB shall establish standing committees, as well as any 10 additional committees that it determines appropriate, which in each case shall include the number of members, utilize the criteria for 11 12 appointment, and provide for the manner of appointment and term 13 of service prescribed by regulation of the commissioner. standing committees shall research, review, assess, and recommend 14 15 policy, and analyze data as applicable, as specified by the 16 commissioner. The standing committees shall include the 17 following:
 - (1) Medical Services Committee;

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- 19 (2) Pre-hospital Care Systems Operations Committee;
- 20 (3) Inter-facility Care Systems Operations Committee;
- 21 (4) Funding and Finance Committee;
- 22 (5) Public Awareness and Prevention Committee;
- 23 (6) Clinical Education Committee;
- 24 (7) Research and Data Committee; and
- 25 (8) Specialty Care Committee.
 - f. Each committee shall address how its specific purpose can add to the discussion on the establishment of standards pursuant to paragraph (2) of subsection a. of this section.
 - g. (1) EMCAB shall, no later than the 120th day after its initial meeting, submit written recommendations to the commissioner for new or revised regulations to be adopted by the commissioner pursuant to P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), which shall be designed to improve emergency medical services in this State consistent with standards adopted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
 - (2) EMCAB shall provide ongoing review of existing regulations governing emergency medical services, and shall recommend to the commissioner such revisions as EMCAB determines are needed to achieve the goals of evidence-based medical care and protecting the public health.
 - (3) EMCAB shall submit an annual report to the commissioner on the state of pre-hospital and inter-facility care in New Jersey, including evaluations and recommendations from each of its standing committees.
- h. All meetings of EMCAB and its committees shall be open to the public. Prior public notice shall be provided for each meeting, and input and discussion by members of the public shall be encouraged at all such meetings.

i. The department shall provide staff support to EMCAB and its committees.

- 14. (New section) a. The commissioner, in consultation with EMCAB, shall establish, by regulation, requirements for:
- (1) the collection of data that each agency providing pre-hospital or inter-facility care is to obtain for each patient encounter;
- (2) the creation and use of a patient care report by the agency to provide this data in written or electronic form to the receiving facility in a timely manner; and
 - (3) the reporting of this data to the department.
- b. (1) The department shall develop and maintain an electronic record of the data reported pursuant to subsection a. of this section and shall make such non-identifying data available for research purposes, in accordance with guidelines to be established by the commissioner and subject to the requirements and restrictions of State and federal law and regulations.
- (2) An agency shall not be required to utilize a prescribed form for reporting the data, provided that its reports include all data specified by regulation of the commissioner.

- 15. (New section) a. (1) Commencing no later than two years after the effective date of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), each municipality in the State shall ensure or arrange for the provision of basic life support pre-hospital care in response to 9-1-1 calls within its boundaries, including continuation of coverage when the primary service is unavailable.
- (2) The commissioner shall ensure or arrange for the provision of advanced life support pre-hospital care in response to 9-1-1 calls within the State.
- (3) The commissioner, in consultation with EMCAB, shall establish minimum standards for training, response times, equipment, and quality of care with respect to basic life support prehospital care and advanced life support pre-hospital care.
- b. (1) The commissioner shall establish, by regulation, minimum standards for licensing any clinician or agency as an emergency medical services provider before that clinician or agency is permitted to respond to 9-1-1 calls in this State.
- (2) Any agency licensed to provide 9-1-1 emergency medical services response in New Jersey shall be required to maintain a written agreement with a dispatch agency approved by the commissioner. The commissioner shall establish objective standards to approve and monitor dispatch agencies; and these standards shall be designed to improve response times and appropriate triage of resources to respond to calls for emergency medical services, and shall include requirements for global positioning tracking of emergency medical services vehicles through a standard electronic interface accessible to all dispatch and

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- responder agencies, in order to enhance agency interoperability.

 Any licensed emergency medical services provider shall be permitted to contract with any approved dispatch agency.
 - (3) The commissioner shall provide for the coordination of dispatch agencies in accordance with protocols established by the department.
- 7 c. The commissioner shall, no later than December 31 of each year, present a report to the Governor, and to the Legislature 8 9 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), on the 10 adequacy of emergency medical services provided pursuant to this section, and shall identify in that report the funding needed for the 11 12 succeeding fiscal year in order to adequately fund the needed 13 infrastructure and research to encourage the continued improvement 14 of those emergency medical services.

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- 16. Section 11 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C26:2K-17) is amended to read as follows:
- 18 11. <u>a.</u> The commissioner shall promulgate such rules and regulations, in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
- 20 P.L.1968, c. 410 (C. 52:14B-1 et seq.), as [he] the commissioner
- 21 deems necessary to effectuate the purposes of [this act, and the
- board medical examiners and the board of nursing chapter 2K of
- 23 <u>Title 26 of the Revised Statutes, with the advice of EMCAB in the</u>
- 24 <u>form of such written recommendations as EMCAB may submit to</u>
- 25 the commissioner for his consideration.
- b. The State Board of Medical Examiners and the New Jersey
 Board of Nursing shall promulgate such rules and regulations as
 they deem necessary to carry out their functions under [this act]
 chapter 2K of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.
- 30 (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s.11)

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- 32 17. Section 13 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C26:2K-19) is amended to read as follows:
- 13. Nothing in this act shall be construed as interfering with an emergency service training program authorized and operated under provisions of the "New Jersey Highway [Safety Act of 1971,"
- 37 P.L.1971, c. 351 (C. 27:5F-1 et seq.)] Traffic Safety Act of 1987,"
- 38 P.L.1987, c.284 (C.27:5F-18 et seq.).
- 39 (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s.13)

- 18. Section 14 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-20) is amended to read as follows:
- 14. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent a licensed and qualified member of the health care profession from performing
- any [of the] duties that require the skills of a [mobile intensive
- 46 care] paramedic, EMT, or emergency medical responder if the

1 duties are consistent with the accepted standards of the member's 2 profession.

3 (cf: P.L.1984, c.146, s.14)

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- 5 19. Section 2 of P.L.1986, c.106 (C.26:2K-36) is amended to
- 6 read as follows: 7 2. a. There is established the New Jersey [Emergency] Air
- Medical [Service Helicopter] Response Program in the [Division 9 of Local and Community Health Services Office of Emergency
- 10 Medical Services of the Department of Health and Senior Services.
- commissioner shall 11 have overall responsibility for
- administration of the program and shall designate a mobile 12
- 13 intensive care hospital in this State and a [regional] trauma [or
- 14 critical care] center which shall develop and maintain a hospital-
- based [emergency medical service helicopter response] air medical 15
 - unit. The commissioner shall designate at least two units in the
- 17 State, of which no less than one unit each shall be designated for the
- 18 northern and southern portions of the State, respectively.
 - Each [emergency medical service helicopter response] air medical unit shall be staffed by at least two persons trained in advanced life support and approved by the commissioner. The staff of the [emergency medical service helicopter response] air medical unit shall render life support services to an accident or trauma victim, as necessary, in the course of providing emergency medical
- 25 transportation. 26
- c. The Division of State Police in the Department of Law and 27 Public Safety shall provide air medical support for the program and 28 shall submit its operating costs to the department in order to receive
- 29 funding for its program-related operations. The helicopters utilized
- 30 in support of the program shall be used exclusively for air medical 31 operations.
- 32 d. The commissioner shall provide, by regulation, for the 33 licensure of privately operated air medical units, in addition to the
- 34 units designated pursuant to subsection a. of this section.

35 (cf: P.L.1986, c.106, s.2)

- 37 20. Section 2 of P.L.1992, c.87 (C.26:2K-36.1) is amended to 38 read as follows:
- 39 2. a. (1) There is established in the General Fund a special 40 dedicated fund to be known as the New Jersey Emergency Medical
- 41 [Service Helicopter Response Program] <u>Services System Support</u>
- 42 Fund, which shall be administered by the State Treasurer. The
- Treasurer shall credit to the fund all moneys received pursuant to 43
- 44 section 1 of P.L.1992, c.87 (C.39:3-8.2). Any interest earned on
- 45 moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund.
- 46 (2) Whenever, in any law, rule, regulation, order, contract,
- 47 document, judicial or administrative proceeding, or otherwise,

- 1 reference is made to the "New Jersey Emergency Medical Service
- 2 <u>Helicopter Response Program Fund," the same shall mean and refer</u>
- 3 to the "New Jersey Emergency Medical Services System Support
- 4 <u>Fund."</u>
- 5 b. [From the] <u>The</u> moneys in the fund [there] shall be
- 6 **[**annually appropriated an amount necessary to pay the reasonable
- 7 and necessary expenses of the operation of the New Jersey
- 8 Emergency Medical Service Helicopter Response Program created
- 9 pursuant to P.L.1986, c.106 (C.26:2K-35 et al.). Moneys remaining
- in the fund, and any unexpended balance of appropriations from the
- 11 fund, at the end of each fiscal year, shall be reappropriated and
- deposited in a special capital maintenance reserve account within
- 13 the fund. Moneys in the special capital maintenance reserve
- 14 account shall be used exclusively for capital replacement and major
- maintenance of helicopter equipment <u>latilized for the following</u>
- 16 purposes:
- 17 (1) basic life support services;
- 18 (2) advanced life support services;
- 19 (3) the New Jersey Air Medical Response Program;
- 20 (4) the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System;
- 21 (5) emergency medical services for children;
- 22 (6) health information technology initiatives relating to
- 23 <u>emergency medical services;</u>
- 24 (7) recruitment and retention of emergency medical services 25 providers;
- 26 (8) training and education of emergency medical services 27 providers;
- 28 (9) other activities or initiatives in support of the emergency
- 29 medical services system as specified in regulations adopted by the
- 30 commissioner; and
- 31 (10) administrative costs incurred by the department in
- 32 connection with the emergency medical services system, which
- 33 <u>shall not exceed 8% of the moneys in the fund.</u>
- c. [Six months] One year after the effective date of this
- 35 section and [every six months] <u>annually</u> thereafter, the
- 36 Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall report to the
- Joint Budget Oversight Committee, or its successor, <u>and</u> the Senate
- Health [and], Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee and
- the Assembly Health and [Human] <u>Senior</u> Services Committee, or
- 40 <u>their successors, on the use of moneys in the fund</u>. [The report
- 41 shall contain, but not be limited to, cost analyses concerning the
- 42 response program activities including the number of flights, types
- 43 of accidents, hours spent waiting at accident sites, and fuel and
- 44 maintenance expenses].
- 45 (cf: P.L.1992, c.87, s.2)

- 1 21. Section 3 of P.L.1986, c.106 (C.26:2K-37) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. The Division of State Police of the Department of Law and
- 4 Public Safety shall establish an emergency medical transportation
- 5 service to provide <u>air</u> medical transportation service pursuant to
- 6 [this amendatory and supplementary act] section 2 of P.L.1986,
- 7 $\underline{\text{c.106}}$ (C.26:2K-36). The superintendent shall operate and maintain
- 8 at least one dedicated helicopter for each [emergency medical
- 9 service helicopter response] air medical unit designated by the
- 10 commissioner pursuant to section 2 of [this amendatory and
- 11 supplementary act] P.L.1986, c.106 (C.26:2K-36).
- 12 (cf: P.L.1986, c.106, s.3)

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- 22. Section 3 of P.L.1992, c.96 (C.26:2K-50) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. a. There is established within the Office of Emergency
 Medical Services in the Department of Health and Senior Services,
 the Emergency Medical Services for Children program.
- b. The commissioner shall hire a full-time coordinator for the EMSC program in consultation with, and by the recommendation of the advisory council.
 - c. The coordinator shall implement the EMSC program following consultation with, and at the recommendation of, the advisory council. The coordinator shall serve as a liaison to the advisory council.
 - d. The coordinator may employ professional, technical, research and clerical staff as necessary within the limits of available appropriations. The provisions of Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes shall apply to all personnel so employed.
- e. The coordinator may solicit and accept grants of funds from
 the federal government and from other public and private sources.
- 32 (cf: P.L.1992, c.96, s.3)

- 34 23. Section 5 of P.L.1992, c.96 (C.26:2K-52) is amended to read as follows:
- 5. a. There is created an Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Council to advise the Office of Emergency
- Children Advisory Council to advise the Office of Emergency
 Medical Services and the coordinator of the EMSC program on all
- 36 Medical services and the coordinator of the EMSC program on an
- 39 matters concerning emergency medical services for children. The
- 40 advisory council shall assist in the formulation of policy and
- 41 regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.
- b. The advisory council shall consist of a minimum of [14] 24
- public members to be appointed by the **[**Governor, with the advice
- and consent of the Senate commissioner, in consultation with
- 45 <u>EMCAB</u>, for a term of three years. Membership of the advisory
- council shall include: one [practicing] general practice pediatrician,
- one pediatric critical care physician, one [board certified] pediatric

1 emergency physician and one pediatric physiatrist, to be appointed 2 upon the recommendation of the New Jersey chapter of the 3 American Academy of Pediatrics; one pediatric surgeon and one 4 trauma surgeon, to be appointed upon the recommendation of the 5 New Jersey chapter of the American College of Surgeons; one 6 general emergency physician, to be appointed upon the recommendation of the New Jersey chapter of the American 7 8 College of Emergency Physicians; one injury prevention specialist. 9 to be appointed upon the recommendation of the New Jersey State 10 Safe Kids Coalition; Ione emergency medical technician, to be appointed upon the recommendation of the New Jersey State First 11 12 Aid Council; one paramedic, to be appointed upon the 13 recommendation of the [State mobile intensive care advisory 14 council subcommittee on advanced life support services of the 15 standing committee on Pre-hospital Care Systems Operations of 16 EMCAB; one family practice physician, to be appointed upon the 17 recommendation of the New Jersey chapter of the American Academy of Family [Practice] Physicians; two registered 18 19 emergency nurses, one to be appointed upon the recommendation of 20 the New Jersey State Nurses Association and one to be appointed upon the recommendation of the New Jersey Chapter of the 21 22 Emergency Nurses Association; one school nurse, to be appointed 23 upon the recommendation of the New Jersey State School Nurses 24 Association; one person to be appointed upon the recommendation 25 of the Medical Transportation Association of New Jersey; and three 26 members, each with a non-medical background, two of whom are 27 parents with children under the age of 18**[**, to be appointed upon the 28 joint recommendation of the Association for Children of New 29 Jersey and the Junior Leagues of New Jersey 1. 30

The advisory council shall also include the following members who shall serve ex officio: the President of the New Jersey Hospital Association or his designee; the EMSC coordinator; the Director of the Office of Emergency Medical Services in the department; a representative from the Division of Family Health Services in the department who manages the federal Maternal and Child Health Services Title V Block Grant for children with special health care needs; the Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety or his designee; the Commissioner of Children and Families or his designee; and the Commissioner of Education or his designee.

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46 47 c. Vacancies on the advisory council shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment of the [Governor] commissioner, in consultation with EMCAB, in the same manner as originally filled. The members of the advisory council shall serve without compensation. The advisory council shall elect a chairperson, who may select from among the members a vice-chairperson and other officers or subcommittees which are deemed necessary or

- appropriate. The council may further organize itself in any manner it deems appropriate and enact bylaws as deemed necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the council.
- 4 <u>d. The council shall meet at least quarterly.</u>

5 (cf: P.L.1992, c.96, s.5)

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- 7 24. Section 1 of P.L.1992, c.143 (C.26:2K-54) is amended to 8 read as follows:
- 9 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Emergency 10 Medical [Technician] Services Training Fund Act."

11 (cf: P.L.1992, c.143, s.1)

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- 25. Section 3 of P.L.1992, c.143 (C.26:2K-56) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. There is established the "Emergency Medical [Technician] Services Training Fund" as a nonlapsing, revolving fund. The fund shall be administered by the commissioner or his designee, and shall be credited with monies received pursuant to [subsection c. of R.S.39:5-41] N.J.S.22A-3-4.
- 20 a. The State Treasurer is the custodian of the fund, and all disbursements from the fund shall be made by the treasurer upon 21 22 vouchers signed by the commissioner or his designee. Monies in 23 the fund shall be used to carry out the provisions of this act, except that no more than [5%] 8% of these monies shall be used for 24 25 administration of the fund in each fiscal year. The fund shall 26 consist of monies as provided for in this act and the interest which is earned on those monies. The monies in the fund shall be invested 27 28 and reinvested by the Director of the Division of Investment in the 29 Department of the Treasury as are other trust funds in the custody 30 of the State Treasurer in the manner provided by law.
- b. The fund may be used for the following purposes, as
 specified in regulations adopted by the commissioner, in accordance
 with the recommendations of EMCAB:
- (1) to train any EMT at the basic level;
- (2) to pay for continuing education recertification requirements
 for EMTs and paramedics;
- 37 (3) to provide interest-free loans for initial paramedic training; 38 and
- (4) for recruitment and retention of EMTs and paramedics to
 meet the needs of the community.
- 41 (cf: P.L.1992, c.143, s.3)

- 43 26. Section 1 of P.L.1993, c.58 (C.26:2K-60) is amended to read 44 as follows:
- 1. In the event of an emergency, the chief executive officer of any [volunteer] basic life support service first aid, ambulance or rescue squad or the mayor or chief executive officer of any

municipality may request assistance from the chief executive officer of any [volunteer] basic life support service first aid, ambulance or rescue squad located in and serving another municipality for the protection and preservation of life within the territorial jurisdiction served by the squad requesting the assistance.

The chief executive officer of the [volunteer] basic life support service first aid, ambulance or rescue squad located in and normally serving a contiguous municipality to whom such a request for assistance is made shall, except as hereinafter otherwise set forth, provide such personnel and equipment as requested to the extent possible without endangering any person or property within the municipality in which the assisting squad is located and which it normally serves.

The members of any squad providing assistance shall have, while so acting, the same rights and immunities as they otherwise enjoy in the performance of their normal duties in the municipality, or other territorial jurisdiction, in which the squad is located and which it normally serves.

If any member of the assisting <u>basic life support service</u> first aid, ambulance or rescue squad shall, in rendering such assistance, suffer any injury or death, the member or his designee or legal representative shall be entitled to all salary, pension rights, workers compensation and other benefits to which the member would be entitled if the casualty or death had occurred in the performance of the member's duties in the municipality, or other territorial jurisdiction, in which the squad is located and which it normally serves.

(cf: P.L.1993, c.58, s.1)

- 27. Section 2 of P.L.1993, c.58 (C.26:2K-61) is amended to read as follows:
- 2. The governing bodies of two or more municipalities may, by enacting reciprocal ordinances, enter into agreements with each other for mutual <u>basic life support service</u> first aid, ambulance or rescue squad assistance in case of emergency, subject to the written approval of the [volunteer] <u>basic life support service</u> first aid, ambulance or rescue squad or squads involved. The agreements may provide for:
- a. Terms and conditions for payment by the municipality receiving assistance to the municipality rendering assistance for each member and each equipped <u>basic life support service</u> first aid, ambulance or rescue squad apparatus for each hour supplied;
- b. The reimbursement of the municipality or municipalities rendering assistance for any damage to <u>basic life support service</u> first aid, ambulance or rescue squad equipment or other property and for payment to any member of a <u>basic life support service</u> first aid, ambulance or rescue squad for injuries sustained while serving

pursuant to such agreements, or to a surviving spouse or other dependent if death results; and

- 3 c. A joint meeting of the municipalities entering into such 4 agreements regarding other matters as are mutually deemed 5 necessary.
- 6 (cf: P.L.1993, c.58, s.2)

- 8 28. (New section) a. The commissioner shall establish, 9 maintain, and coordinate the activities of the New Jersey 10 Emergency Medical Services Task Force.
 - b. The purpose of the task force shall be to support and enhance the provision of specialized response services, utilizing personnel and equipment to respond as requested, for both preplanned and emergency events, including natural disasters and mass casualty incidents, including chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive events, in order to reduce morbidity and mortality through appropriate triage, incident management, and coordinated pre-hospital care and transportation.
 - c. The membership of the task force shall represent all regions of the State and shall include emergency medical responders, EMTs, paramedics, registered nurses, physicians, communications specialists, hospitals, agencies providing emergency medical responder and other emergency medical services, and communication centers utilized for the purpose of providing emergency medical services.

- 29. N.J.S.22A:3-4 is amended to read as follows:
- 22A:3-4. Fees for criminal proceedings.

The fees provided in the following schedule, and no other charges whatsoever, shall be allowed for court costs in any proceedings of a criminal nature in the municipal courts but no charge shall be made for the services of any salaried police officer of the State, county or municipal police.

For violations of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, or of traffic ordinances, at the discretion of the court, up to but not exceeding \$33.

For all other cases, at the discretion of the court, up to but not exceeding \$33.

In municipal court proceedings, the court shall impose court costs within the maximum limits authorized by this section, as follows:

- a. For every violation of any statute or ordinance the sum of \$2.00. The court shall not suspend the collection of this \$2.00 court cost assessment. These court cost assessments shall be collected by the municipal court administrator for deposit into the Automated Traffic System Fund, created pursuant to N.J.S.2B:12-30.
- b. For each fine, penalty and forfeiture imposed and collected under authority of law for any violation of the provisions of Title 39

- 1 of the Revised Statutes or any other motor vehicle or traffic
- 2 violation in this State the sum of [\$.50] \$5. The court shall not
- 3 suspend the collection of this **[**\$.50**]** \$\frac{\$5}{2}\$ court cost assessment.
- 4 These court cost assessments shall be collected by the municipal
- 5 court administrator for deposit into the "Emergency Medical
- 6 [Technician] <u>Services</u> Training Fund" established pursuant to
- 7 P.L.1992, c.143 (C.26:2K-54 et al.).
- 8 c. For every violation of any statute or ordinance the sum of \$3
- 9 to fund the Statewide modernization of the Automated Traffic
- 10 System. The court shall not suspend the collection of this \$3 court
- 11 cost assessment. These court cost assessments shall be collected by
- 12 the municipal court administrator for deposit into the Automated
- 13 Traffic System Statewide Modernization Fund, established pursuant
- 14 to section 1 of P.L.2004, c.62 (C.2B:12-30.1).
- The provisions of this act shall not prohibit the taxing of additional costs when authorized by R.S.39:5-39.
- For certificate of judgment...... \$4.00
- For certified copy of paper filed with the court as a public record:
- 20 First page...... \$4.00
- Each additional page or part thereof....... \$1.00
- 22 For copy of paper filed with the court as a public record:
- 23 First page...... \$2.00
- Each additional page or part thereof...... \$1.00
- In addition to any fine imposed, when a supplemental notice is sent for failure to appear on a return date the cost shall be \$10.00
- 27 per notice, unless satisfactory evidence is presented to the court that
- 28 the notice was not received.

CONSTABLES OR OTHER OFFICERS

- From the fees allowed for court costs in the foregoing schedule, the clerk of the court shall pay the following fees to constables or other officers:
- 33 Serving warrant or summons, \$1.50.
- 34 Serving every subpoena, \$0.70.
- 35 Serving every execution, \$1.50.
- Advertising property under execution, \$0.70.
- 37 Sale of property under execution, \$1.00.
- 38 Serving every commitment, \$1.50.
- Transport of defendant, actual cost.
- 40 Mileage, for every mile of travel in serving any warrant,
- 41 summons, commitment, subpoena or other process, computed by
- 42 counting the number of miles in and out, by the most direct route
- from the place where such process is returnable, exclusive of the
- 44 first mile, \$0.20.
- 45 If defendant is found guilty of the charge laid against him, he
- shall pay the costs herein provided, but if, on appeal, the judgment
- 47 is reversed, the costs shall be repaid to defendant. If defendant is
- 48 found not guilty of the charge laid against him, the costs shall be

1 paid by the prosecutor, except when the Chief Administrator of the

- 2 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, a peace officer, or a police
- 3 officer shall have been prosecutor.
- 4 (cf: P.L.2004, c.62, s.2)

- 6 30. Section 4 of P.L.1987, c.284 (C.27:5F-21) is amended to read as follows:
 - 4. a. The Governor shall coordinate the highway traffic safety activities of State and local agencies, other public and private agencies, nonprofit organizations, and interested organizations and individuals and shall be the official of this State having the ultimate responsibility of dealing with the federal government with respect to the State highway traffic safety program. In order to effectuate the purposes of this act [he], the Governor shall:
 - (1) Prepare for this State, the New Jersey Highway Traffic Safety Program which shall consist of a comprehensive plan in conformity with the laws of this State to reduce traffic accidents and deaths, injuries, and property damage resulting therefrom [.]:
 - (2) Promulgate rules and regulations establishing standards and procedures relating to the content, coordination, submission, and approval of local highway traffic safety programs [.];
 - (3) Contract and do all things necessary or convenient on behalf of the State in order to insure that all departments of State government, local political subdivisions and nonprofit organizations, to the extent that nonprofit organizations qualify for highway traffic safety grants pursuant to the provisions of section 12 of P.L.1987, c.284 (C.27:5F-29) as amended by section 6 of P.L.2007, c.84, secure the full benefits available under the "U.S. Highway Safety Act of 1966," Pub.L.89-564 (23 U.S.C. ss. 401-404), and any acts amendatory or supplementary thereto [.]; and
 - (4) Adopt, through the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, training programs, guidelines, and standards for members of [nonvolunteer] basic life support service first aid, rescue, and ambulance squads and agencies providing emergency medical service programs or pre-hospital or inter-facility care as defined in section 1 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7).
- b. The New Jersey Highway Traffic Safety Program, and rules and regulations, training programs, guidelines, and standards shall comply with uniform standards promulgated by the United States Secretary of Transportation in accordance with the "U.S. Highway Safety Act of 1966," Pub.L.89-564 (23 U.S.C. ss. 401-404), and any acts amendatory or supplementary thereto.
- 43 (cf: P.L.2007, c.84, s.2)

45 31. Section 5 of P.L.1987, c.284 (C.27:5F-22) is amended to 46 read as follows:

1 5. The New Jersey Highway Traffic Safety Program shall, in 2 addition to other provisions, include training programs for groups 3 such as, but not limited to, police, teachers, students, and public employees, which programs shall comply with the uniform 4 5 standards promulgated by the United States Secretary of Transportation in accordance with the "U.S. Highway Safety Act of 6 7 1966," Pub.L.89-564 (23 U.S.C. s.s. 401-404), and any acts 8 amendatory or supplementary thereto.

In addition, the New Jersey Highway Traffic Safety Program shall include the training program for [members of volunteer first aid, rescue and ambulance squads, adopted by the New Jersey State First Aid Council] paramedics, emergency medical technicians, and emergency medical responders licensed by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, which shall comply with the uniform standards promulgated by the United States Secretary of Transportation in accordance with the "U.S. Highway Safety Act of 1966," Pub.L.89-564 (23 U.S.C. s.s. 401-404) and any amendments or supplements to it.

19 (cf: P.L.1987, c.284, s.5)

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32. Section 10 of P.L.1987, c.284 (C.27:5F-27) is amended to read as follows:

10. The officers of each volunteer and nonvolunteer <u>Each</u> basic life support service first aid, rescue, and ambulance squad [providing emergency medical service programs shall be responsible for the training of its members and shall notify the governing body of the political subdivision in which the squad is located, or the person designated for this purpose by the governing body, that particular applicants for membership (qualified under sections 5 and 4 of this act respectively), ambulances, and ambulance equipment meet the standards required by this act. Upon receipt of such notification the governing body or person designated shall certify the applicant, ambulances, and ambulance equipment as being qualified for emergency medical service programs, and shall issue a certificate to that effect at no charge. Each member and piece of equipment of a volunteer and nonvolunteer first aid, rescue and ambulance squad shall comply with the requirements for certification annually. Any person who is a member of a volunteer and nonvolunteer first aid, rescue and ambulance squad providing emergency medical service programs on the effective date of this act shall, if application is made to the appropriate municipality within 90 days of the effective date, be certified by the governing body or designated person as being qualified for emergency medical service programs for a period of two years. At the end of that period, the person shall comply with the requirements for [certification annually] <u>licensure of personnel</u>. ambulances, and ambulance equipment established by the

- 1 Commissioner of Health and Senior Services and shall staff each
- 2 ambulance with at least two emergency medical technicians while it
- 3 <u>is in service</u>. No person or entity shall respond to a 9-1-1 call as
- 4 defined in section 1 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7) unless that
- 5 person or entity is licensed to do so by the Department of Health
- 6 <u>and Senior Services</u>.
- 7 (cf: P.L.1987, c.284, s.10)

- 9 33. Section 1 of P.L.1992, c.87 (C.39:3-8.2) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. a. In addition to the motor vehicle registration fees imposed
- pursuant to the provisions of chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, the chief administrator shall impose and collect an
- additional fee of \$3 to be deposited in the New Jersey Emergency
- 15 Medical [Service Helicopter Response Program] Services System
- 16 Support Fund created pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1992, c.87
- 17 (C.26:2K-36.1).
- b. In addition to the motor vehicle registration fees imposed
- 19 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised
- 20 Statutes, the chief administrator shall impose and collect an
- 21 additional fee of \$.50 to be deposited in the Traumatic Brain Injury
- Fund established pursuant to section 5 of P.L.2001, c.332 (C.30:6F-
- 23 5).
- c. In addition to the motor vehicle registration fees imposed
- 25 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised
- 26 Statutes, the chief administrator shall impose and collect an
- 27 additional fee of \$1, which shall be deposited to a separate account
- dedicated for the funding of new State Police trooper classes. The
- 29 Legislature shall annually appropriate the balance of the separate
- 30 account to the Department of Law and Public Safety for the
- 31 Division of State Police for the funding of new State Police trooper
- 32 classes.
- 33 (cf: P.L.2005, c.311, s.1)

- 35 34. The following are repealed:
- 36 Sections 5, 10, and 12 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-11, C.26:2K-
- 37 16, and C.26:2K-18);
- 38 P.L.1985, c.351 (C.26:2K-21 et seq.);
- 39 Sections 1 and 4 of P.L.1986, c.106 (C.26:2K-35 and C.26:2K-
- 40 38);
- 41 P.L.1989, c.314 (C.26:2K-39 et seq.);
- 42 Sections 1, 2, 3, and 10 of P.L.2003, c.1 (C.26:2K-47.1,
- 43 C.26:2K-47.2, C.26:2K-47.3, and C.26:2K-47.9);
- 44 Section 2 of P.L.1992, c.96 (C.26:2K-49); and
- 45 Sections 2, 4, 5, and 6 of P.L.1992, c.143 (C.26:2K-55, C.26:2K-
- 46 57, C.26:2K-58, and C.26:2K-59).

35. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after enactment, but the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services may take such anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of the act.

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STATEMENT

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This bill provides for a variety of statutory measures to enhance the scope and quality of the emergency medical services system in New Jersey.

The bill:

- provides a new statutory approach to the regulation of emergency medical services within chapter 2K of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes, which encompasses both basic and advanced life support services and governs the qualifications, training, and operations of paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and emergency medical responders;
- revises and consolidates in section 1 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7) the definitions of terms used in chapter 2K of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes governing emergency medical services;
- provides that, under the direction of the Commissioner of Health 23 and Senior Services, the Office of Emergency Medical Services 24 25 in the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is to 26 serve as the lead State agency for the oversight of emergency 27 medical services delivery in the State, including both direct 28 services and support services and funding therefor, and to have as its basic purpose to ensure the continuous and timely Statewide 29 30 availability and dispatch of basic life support and advanced life support to all persons in this State, through ground and air, adult 31 32 and pediatric triage, treatment and transport, emergency response 33 capability;
- requires that each municipality in the State, commencing no later than two years after the effective date of the bill, ensure or arrange for the provision of basic life support pre-hospital care in response to 9-1-1 calls within its boundaries, including continuation of coverage when the primary service is unavailable;
 - directs the commissioner to ensure or arrange for the provision of advanced life support pre-hospital care in response to 9-1-1 calls within the State;
- requires that licensure be obtained from the commissioner: by a paramedic to staff a mobile intensive care unit; by an EMT to staff a licensed ambulance; and by an emergency medical responder to respond to 9-1-1 calls, who must each apply for licensure on forms prescribed by the commissioner;
- authorizes the commissioner, after notice and hearing, to revoke
 the license of a paramedic, EMT, or emergency medical

- responder for violation of any provision of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7 et seq.) or applicable regulations;
- requires DHSS to make available to the public a current list of
 licensed paramedics and EMTs on its Internet website;
- requires paramedics, EMTs, and emergency medical responders to undergo a criminal history record background check, in accordance with regulations adopted by the commissioner, as a condition of licensure or other authorization to practice;
- authorizes a paramedic to perform advanced life support services
 if the paramedic:
 - -- maintains direct voice communication with and is taking orders from a licensed physician or physician-directed registered professional nurse, both of whom are affiliated with a mobile intensive care program; or
 - -- is operating under standing orders from a licensed physician that were developed or approved by a mobile intensive care program;
- authorizes a hospital licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) to develop and maintain a mobile intensive care program if it is licensed to do so pursuant to this bill; and requires the hospital, at a minimum, to maintain an accredited emergency department;
- directs the commissioner to establish, by regulation, criteria which a hospital must meet in order to obtain licensure to operate a mobile intensive care program;
- stipulates that a hospital operating a mobile intensive care program prior to the effective date of this bill is required to meet any new requirements for such licensure as may be established by the commissioner by the date that the hospital is required to apply for renewal of its license to operate a mobile intensive care program;
 - repeals the following:

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- -- section 5 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C26:2K-11), concerning the performance of advanced life support procedures by a paramedic who is not in direct voice communication with a physician which would be obviated by the provisions of section 4 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-10);
- -- section 12 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C26:2K-18), concerning a paramedic performing the duties or filling the position of another health care professional employed by a hospital which would be obviated by the provisions of section 6 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-12);
- -- section 4 of P.L.1986, c.106 (C26:2K-38), concerning immunity from liability for persons training for or rendering advanced life support services which would be obviated by the provisions of section 8 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-14); and
- 47 -- P.L.1989, c.314 (C.26:2K-39 et seq.), concerning certification
 48 of EMT-Ds by the commissioner to perform cardiac defibrillation -

- 1 which is obviated by the training in cardiac defibrillation provided
- 2 to EMTs and First Responders to meet American Heart Association
- 3 CPR certification requirements;
- renames the "New Jersey Emergency Medical Service Helicopter
- 5 Response Program" as the "New Jersey Air Medical Response
- 6 Program" and substitutes the term "air medical unit" for
- 7 "emergency medical service helicopter response unit" with
- 8 respect to those entities designated to operate an air medical
- 9 program;

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- renames the "New Jersey Emergency Medical Service Helicopter
- Response Program Fund," established pursuant to section 2 of
- 12 P.L.1992, c.87 (C.26:2K-36.1), as the "New Jersey Emergency
- 13 Medical Services System Support Fund," and directs that the
- moneys in the fund be utilized for the following purposes:
- 15 -- basic life support services;
- 16 -- advanced life support services;
- -- the New Jersey Air Medical Response Program;
- 18 -- the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System;
- -- emergency medical services for children;
- 20 -- health information technology initiatives relating to 21 emergency medical services;
- 22 -- recruitment and retention of emergency medical services23 providers;
- 24 -- training and education of emergency medical services 25 providers;
 - -- other activities or initiatives in support of the emergency medical services system as specified in regulations adopted by the commissioner; and
 - -- administrative costs incurred by DHSS in connection with the emergency medical services system, which are not to exceed 8% of the moneys in the fund;
- directs the commissioner to provide, by regulation, for the licensure of privately operated air medical units, in addition to the units designated pursuant to statute; and
- directs the commissioner to promulgate rules and regulations
 pursuant to P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7 et seq.), with the advice
 of the Emergency Medical Care Advisory Board (EMCAB)
- established pursuant to this bill, in the form of such written
- 56 established pursuant to this only in the form of such written
- recommendations as EMCAB may submit to the commissioner
- 40 for his consideration.
- In addition, the bill provides as follows:
- The commissioner is to appoint a State Medical Director for
- Emergency Medical Services, who will assume responsibility for
- 44 medical oversight of emergency medical services delivery in the
- State. The State medical director, who must be a New Jersey-
- licensed physician with experience in the medical oversight of
- 47 emergency medical services delivery, may (subject to the
- 48 commissioner's approval) appoint up to three regional medical

- 1 directors to provide medical oversight of emergency medical
- 2 services delivery in their respective geographic areas as defined
- 3 by the State medical director.
- 4 • The commissioner is to establish EMCAB to advise the
- 5 commissioner on all matters of mobile intensive care services,
- 6 basic life support services, advanced life support services, and
- 7 pre-hospital and inter-facility care. EMCAB replaces the State
- 8 mobile intensive care advisory council; and section 10 of
- 9 P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-16), which established the council, is
- 10 repealed.

- -- EMCAB is to include 16 members, as follows:
- 12 -- the commissioner and the Director of the Office of Emergency
- 13 Medical Services in DHSS, and the State Medical Director for 14 Emergency Medical Services, or their designees, as ex officio,
- 15 nonvoting members; and
- -- 13 public members, to be initially appointed by the 16
- 17 commissioner and thereafter appointed in a manner specified by
- regulation of the commissioner, including one representative from 18
- 19 each of the following: volunteer basic life support services 20
- providers; paid basic life support services providers; air medical
- 21 programs; mobile intensive care programs; emergency physicians;
- 22 general hospitals; emergency care nurses; municipal government;
- 23 emergency telecommunications services; county offices of emergency management; trauma services or burn treatment 24
- 25 providers; the Emergency Medical Services for Children program;
- 26 and a member of the general public who is not involved with the
- 27 provision of health care or emergency medical services.
- 28 -- EMCAB is to establish the following standing committees of
- 29 the board, as well as any additional committees that it determines
- 30 appropriate, which in each case is to include the number of
- 31 members, utilize the criteria for appointment, and provide for the manner of appointment and term of service prescribed by regulation 32
- 33 of the commissioner, and which are to research, review, assess, and
- 34 recommend policy, and analyze data as applicable:
- 35 Services, Pre-hospital Care Systems Operations, Inter-facility Care
- 36 Systems Operations, Funding and Finance, Public Awareness and
- 37 Prevention, Clinical Education, Research and Data, and Specialty
- 38 Care.
- 39 EMCAB is to provide ongoing review of regulations
- governing emergency medical services, and recommend to the 40
- 41 commissioner such revisions as it determines are needed to achieve
- 42 the goals of evidence-based medical care and protecting the public
- 43 health.
- 44 -- EMCAB is to submit an annual report to the commissioner on
- 45 the state of pre-hospital and inter-facility care in New Jersey,
- 46 including evaluations and recommendations from each of its
- 47 standing committees.

- Statutory authorization for the State advisory council for basic and intermediate life support services training, established pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1992, c.143 (C.26:2K-59), is deleted, as that entity is obviated by the provisions of this bill.
- The commissioner, in consultation with EMCAB, is to establish
 by regulation requirements for:
 - -- the collection of data that each agency providing pre-hospital or inter-facility care is to obtain for each patient encounter;
- 9 -- the creation and use of a patient care report by the agency to 10 provide this data to the receiving facility in a timely manner; and
- -- the reporting of this data to DHSS.

- The commissioner, in consultation with EMCAB, is to establish minimum standards for training, response times, equipment, and quality of care with respect to basic life support pre-hospital care and advanced life support pre-hospital care.
- 16 • The commissioner is to establish, maintain, and coordinate the 17 activities of the New Jersey Emergency Medical Services Task Force, which will include emergency medical services providers 18 19 from all regions of the State. The purpose of the task force will 20 be to support and enhance the provision of specialized response 21 services for both pre-planned and emergency events in order to 22 reduce morbidity and mortality through appropriate triage, incident management, and coordinated pre-hospital care and 23 24 transportation.
- The commissioner is directed to present a report to the Governor and the Legislature, no later than December 31 of each year, on the adequacy of emergency medical services provided pursuant to the bill, and to identify in that report the funding needed for the succeeding fiscal year in order to adequately fund the needed infrastructure and research to encourage the continued improvement of those emergency medical services.
- The "Emergency Medical Technician Training Fund" established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.143 (C.26:2K-56) is renamed as the "Emergency Medical Services Training Fund."
- The fund may be used for the following purposes, as specified in regulations adopted by the commissioner, in accordance with the recommendations of EMCAB:
- -- to train any EMT at the basic level;
- -- to pay for continuing education recertification requirements
 for EMTs and paramedics;
- 41 -- to provide interest-free loans for initial paramedic training;
 42 and
- -- for recruitment and retention of EMTs and paramedics to meet the needs of the community.
- The surcharge imposed on motor vehicle violations pursuant to
 N.J.S.22A:3-5, for deposit into the "Emergency Medical Services
 Training Fund," is increased from \$.50 to \$5 in order to ensure
 adequate funding for EMT and paramedic training.

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- The bill takes effect on the 180th day after enactment, but
- 2 authorizes the commissioner to take anticipatory administrative
- 3 action in advance as necessary for its implementation.