Sponsored by:
Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.
District 7 (Burlington)
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SYNOPSIS
Requires certain homemaker-home health aides to be certified or trained to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As introduced.
AN ACT concerning cardiopulmonary resuscitation and homemaker-home health aides and supplementing Title 45 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, order, rule, or regulation to the contrary, a homemaker-home health aide shall be certified or effectively trained to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation in order to provide care for patients over the age of 65.

b. The employer of a homemaker-home health aide shall be responsible for any costs associated with certifying or training a homemaker-home health aide to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation as required pursuant to subsection a. of this section.

2. The Board of Nursing may adopt rules and regulations, in accordance with the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as are necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill requires certain homemaker-home health aides to be certified or trained to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Under the bill, a homemaker-home health aide is to be certified or effectively trained to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation in order to provide care for patients over the age of 65. The employer of a homemaker-home health aide is to be responsible for any costs associated with certifying or training a homemaker-home health aide to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation as required pursuant to the bill’s provisions.

It is the sponsor’s belief that this bill is necessary given the elevated risk of choking in elderly persons. For example, of the 5,051 people who died from choking in 2015, over half were older than the age of 74. In addition, individuals over 65 are seven times more likely to choke on food compared to children aged 1-4.