

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 26:2H-35.1 and 26:2H-35.2 Nursing home-- evaluative profiles--
Commissioner of Health to compile
and disseminate)

LAWS OF: 1986 CHAPTER: 164

BILL NO: A1250

Sponsor(s): Felice

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: Health and Human Resources

Senate: Institutions, Health and Welfare

Amended during passage: Yes Amendments during paddage denoted
by asterisks.

Date of Passage: Assembly: May 8, 1986
Senate: October 20, 1986

Date of Approval: December 2, 1986

following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly Yes

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: Yes

Following were printed:

Reports: Yes

Hearings: No

Report, referred to in statements-- not issued as of 5-1-87.

974.90 A New Jersey consumer guide to selecting a nursing home. New Jersey
044 Department of Health, Division of Health Facilities. September, 1986.
1986r

(OVER)

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On a quarterly basis, "Deficiency profile for long-term care facilities"-- published by N.J. Department of Health.

12-2-86

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ASSEMBLY, No. 1250

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1986 SESSION

By Assemblyman FELICE

AN ACT concerning evaluative profiles of nursing homes, and supplementing P. L. 1971, c. 136 (C. 26:2H-1 et seq.).

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

1 1. The State Commissioner of Health shall compile and periodi-
2 cally update a report which compares evaluative profiles of all
3 nursing homes in this State. The report shall compare nursing
4 homes on the basis of size, staff to patient ratio, the number of
5 ***[valid complaints received]*** **actions initiated** by State agencies
6 **based upon verified complaints** about the quality of patient
7 care and conditions in each home, the number and types of viola-
7A tions charged against each home and shall contain such other
8 information as the commissioner deems pertinent. The commis-
9 sioner shall periodically publicize the existence of the report and
10 shall supply a copy of the report, free of charge, to any member
11 of the public who requests it.

1 2. Whenever the Department of Health determines that a life
2 threatening condition exists at any nursing home in this State,
3 the commissioner may as soon as is reasonably possible issue a
4 ***[press release]*** **public notice** describing the details of the con-
5 dition in such a manner as to make members of the public generally
6 aware of the matter. The commissioner may postpone issuing the
7 ***[press release]*** **public notice** until such time as the ***[release]***
8 **notice** would not jeopardize an ongoing investigation of the
9 nursing home.

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

Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

***—Assembly committee amendments adopted May 5, 1986.**

1 *3. *There is appropriated \$50,000.00 from the General Fund to*
2 *the Department of Health in order to effectuate the purposes of*
3 *this act.**

1 ***[3.]*** *4.* This act shall take effect immediately.

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES AND PROVIDERS

Requires the Commissioner of Health to compile and disseminate
to the public evaluative profiles of nursing homes.

STATEMENT

This bill requires the Commissioner of Health to compile, periodically update and disseminate to the public a report which compares nursing homes in this State on the basis of size, staff to patient ratio, number of valid complaints received, violations, and other pertinent information. The bill provides that the commissioner may distribute press releases as soon as is reasonably possible describing life threatening conditions discovered at any nursing home.

A1250(1986)

ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 1250

with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 5, 1986

The Assembly Health and Human Resources Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1250 with committee amendments.

As amended by the committee, this bill requires the Commissioner of Health to compile, periodically update, and disseminate to the public a report which compares nursing homes in New Jersey on the basis of size, staff-to-patient ratio, number of actions initiated by State agencies based upon verified complaints about the quality of patient care and conditions in a nursing home, violations, and other pertinent information.

The amended bill permits the commissioner to issue a public notice as soon as is reasonably possible, describing the quality of conditions at a nursing home; however, the notice may be withheld so as not to jeopardize an ongoing investigation of the facility.

The committee amended the bill at the request of the sponsor to provide that actions initiated by State agencies in reaction to verified complaints shall be included in the evaluative report and to provide that the Commissioner of Health may issue a public notice, rather than a press release, describing the details of conditions in a nursing home.

The committee also amended the bill to provide the Department of Health with a \$50,000.00 appropriation to prepare the report on nursing homes.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 1986-87 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

SENATE INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND WELFARE
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 1250

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 16, 1986

The Senate Institutions, Health and Welfare Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 1250 OCR.

This bill requires the Commissioner of Health to compile, periodically update, and disseminate to the public a report which compares nursing homes in New Jersey on the basis of size, staff-to-patient ratio, number of actions initiated by State agencies based upon verified complaints about the quality of patient care and conditions in a nursing home, violations and other pertinent information.

The bill permits the commissioner to issue a public notice as soon as is reasonably possible, describing the details of conditions at a nursing home, when he determines that a life threatening condition exists at the home; however, the notice may be withheld so as not to jeopardize an ongoing investigation of the facility. The bill appropriates \$50,000.00 to the department to prepare the nursing home report.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

NEWS RELEASE

CN-001

Contact: JOHN SAMERJAN
609-292-8956 OR 292-6000 EXT. 207

TRENTON, N.J. 08625

Release: WED., DEC. 3, 1986

Governor Thomas H. Kean today signed the following legislation:

A-1250, sponsored by Assemblyman Nicholas Felice, R-Bergen, provides a procedure for the Department of Health to compile and disseminate to the public a report containing evaluations of nursing homes in the State.

The bill appropriates \$50,000 to the Department to compile, and periodically update, the report. Nursing homes will be compared on the basis of the size of the facility, staff to patient ratio, the number of actions initiated by State agencies based upon verified complaints, the number and type of violations charged against each home, and other information deemed pertinent by the Commissioner of Health.

The legislation is effective immediately.

S-2035, sponsored by Senator Walter Rand, D-Camden, amends the Cable Television Act to enable a cable television company to appeal to the Board of Public Utilities an action by a county governing body refusing to grant the necessary authorization to permit the cable company to locate its facility within that county.

Currently, cable television companies can appeal such decisions by municipalities.

The legislation is effective immediately.

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S-1459/A-3239, sponsored by Senator Francis McManimon, D-Mercer, and Assemblyman Paul DiGaetano, R-Passaic, allows a member of the Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS) to purchase up to five years of pension credit for active military service during a time of war, emergency or peace time.

Current law limits the privilege of purchasing up to five years of pension credit for service to military service during time of war or emergency.

The legislation is effective immediately.

A-2238/S-2327, sponsored by Assemblywoman Dolores Cooper, R-Atlantic and Senator C. William Haines, R-Burlington, amends the term "policeman or fireman" in the law governing the Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS) to add new Civil Service job titles and to delete abolished titles.

The change in the law arises from the reorganization of the Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife and the State Park Service which occurred last year: The legislation ensures that public employees who were PFRS members in their old job titles will remain members of PFRS.

The legislation is effective immediately.

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