

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

**NJSA:** 26:8-8 (Vital statistics--Department of Health--require fire resistant storage)

**LAWS OF:** 1985 **CHAPTER:** 194

**Bill No:** S627

**Sponsor(s):** Bassano and Di Francesco

**Date Introduced:** Pre-filed

**Committee:** **Assembly:** Corrections, Health and Human Services  
**Senate:** Institutions, Health and Welfare

**Amended during passage:** No Substituted for A308 (not attached since identical to S627)

**Date of Passage:** **Assembly:** April 30, 1985  
**Senate:** May 13, 1984

**Date of Approval:** June 26, 1985

**Following statements are attached if available:**

**Sponsor statement:** Yes

**Committee statement:** **Assembly** Yes  
**Senate** Yes

**Fiscal Note:** No

**Veto Message:** No

**Message on Signing:** No

**Following were printed:**

**Reports:** No

**Hearings:** No

CHAPTER 194 LAWS OF N. J. 1985

APPROVED 6-26-85

SENATE, No. 627

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1984 SESSION

By Senators BASSANO and DiFRANCESCO

AN ACT concerning vital records and amending R. S. 26:8-8.

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

1 1. R. S. 26:8-8 is amended to read as follows:

2 26:8-8. Suitable quarters shall be provided for the registration  
3 of vital records which quarters shall be properly equipped with  
4 fire resistant **[vault]** *area* and filing cases for the permanent and  
5 safe preservation of all official records made and returned under  
6 this chapter and chapter 6 of this Title (§ 26:6-1 et seq.) as well as  
7 chapter 1 of Title 37 of the Revised Statutes.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to change the requirement of a fire resistant vault to a fire resistant area to secure the vital statistics maintained by the State Department of Health. This is a more cost effective method to achieve the goal of safe and secure vital statistics.

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.

SENATE, No. 627

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ASSEMBLY CORRECTIONS, HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 627**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: FEBRUARY 4, 1985

This bill changes the requirement of a fire resistant vault as currently provided in R. S. 26:8-8 to a fire resistant area to secure vital statistics maintained by the Department of Health.

The bill, which passed the Senate 32 to none. on April 30, 1984, is identical to A-308 (Franks) which the committee reported at the same time. Both bills were reported favorably without amendments.

SENATE INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND WELFARE  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
**SENATE, No. 627**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: FEBRUARY 27, 1984

This bill requires that vital records (i.e., birth, marriage and death records) maintained by the State Department of Health be kept in a fire resistant area. The law presently requires that these records be kept in a fire resistant vault.

BILLS SIGNED

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JUNE 27, 1985

A-2157, sponsored by Assemblyman Thomas A. Pankok, D-Salem, which permits county colleges to form insurance groups and to participate in joint self-insurance funds, risk management programs and related services.

A-2040, sponsored by Assemblyman John A. Girgenti, D-Passaic, which provides that if a public utility petitions the Board of Public Utilities for a hearing on an issue affecting a county or municipality, the utility must so notify the municipal clerk or the clerk of the board of freeholders at least 20 days prior to the hearing.

S-627, sponsored by State Senator C. Louis Bassano, R-Union, which alters the requirements for safekeeping of vital statistics maintained by the Department of Health. The bill requires that the records be maintained in a fire resistant area. The previous requirement was for the records to be kept in a fireproof vault.

S-2873, sponsored by State Senator Garrett W. Hagedorn, R-Bergen, which validates the authorization for school bonds authorized by the Borough of Pompton Lakes.

A-393, sponsored by Assemblyman Vincent O. Pellicchia, D-Passaic, which establishes a Children's Trust Fund in the Department of Treasury funded by a taxpayer checkoff on the State income tax return. It also creates a Child Life Protection Commission empowered to make grants from the fund to public and private agencies for programs dealing with child abuse.