

26:2H-18a et al

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 26:2H-18a et al

(Children's Hospital of
NJ--designated as the
State's acute care hospital)

LAWS OF: 1985

CHAPTER: 306

Bill No: S2875

Sponsor(s): Codey

Date Introduced: May 2, 1985

Committee: Assembly: Corrections, Health and Human Services

Senate: Institutions, Health and Welfare

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: June 27, 1985

Senate: May 13, 1985

Date of Approval: August 27, 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: Yes

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

See newspaper clipping--attached:

"Children's Hospital designation, \$4.5 million bailout expected"

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SENATE, No. 2875
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 2, 1985

By Senator CODEY

Referred to Committee on Institutions, Health and Welfare

AN ACT concerning designation of a children's hospital 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 Legislature finds and declares that:

2 a. Children's Hospital of New Jersey, a unit of United Hospitals
3 Medical Center in Newark, New Jersey, is the only acute care
4 facility in the State that is committed exclusively to the provision
5 of diagnostic and specialty treatment services for children and is
6 the major pediatric training facility for medical students from the
7 University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey;

8 b. The children treated at Children's Hospital of New Jersey
9 tend to be the most severely ill children in the State and are often
10 referred to the hospital from other facilities when those facilities
11 are unable to provide the needed specialized or critical care a child
12 needs and, consequently, the case-mix at Children's Hospital of New
13 Jersey is unique in the State;

14 c. The comprehensive array of specialized health care services
15 provided at Children's Hospital of New Jersey, the intensity of care
16 needed by seriously ill children and the subsequent longer lengths of
17 stay serve to differentiate Children's Hospital of New Jersey from
18 other acute care hospitals in the State;

19 d. It is in the best interest of the children of New Jersey that
20 the State designate and support an acute care specialty hospital
21 which is dedicated exclusively to the care of children.

1 2. The Commissioner of Health shall designate Children's

2 Hospital of New Jersey, a unit of United Hospitals Medical Center,
3 as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital.

1 3. The Commissioner of Health shall provide for adequate and
2 appropriate reimbursement rates for Children's Hospital of New
3 Jersey pursuant to P. L. 1971, c. 136 (C. 26:2H-1 et seq.). The
4 commissioner shall develop the reimbursement rates for Children's
5 Hospital of New Jersey in accordance with the reimbursement rates
6 for children's hospitals developed by the federal Department of
7 Health and Human Services and the National Association of
8 Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions.

1 4. The Commissioner of Health shall adopt rules and regulations
2 pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P. L. 1968, c. 410
3 (C. 52:14B-1 et seq.) necessary to carry out the purposes of this
4 act.

1 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill directs the Commissioner of Health to designate Children's Hospital of New Jersey as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital. Further, the bill directs the commissioner to develop reimbursement rates for Children's Hospital of New Jersey that accurately reflect the unique costs associated with the development and provision of essential specialized services to seriously ill children.

SENATE, No. 2875

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S 2875 (1985)

ASSEMBLY CORRECTIONS, HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2875

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 24, 1985

This bill directs the Commissioner of Health to designate Children's Hospital of New Jersey, a unit of United Hospitals Medical Center in Newark, as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital. Further, the bill directs the commissioner to develop reimbursement rates (under the diagnosis related group system, DRG) for Children's Hospital of New Jersey that accurately reflect the unique costs associated with the development and provision of essential specialized services to seriously ill children.

Presently, no hospital in New Jersey is designated as a specialty acute care children's hospital.

The committee reported the bill favorably without amendments.

SENATE INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND WELFARE
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 2875

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 6, 1985

This bill directs the Commissioner of Health to designate Children's Hospital of New Jersey, a unit of United Hospitals Medical Center in Newark, as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital. Further, the bill directs the commissioner to develop reimbursement rates (under the diagnosis related group system, DRG) for Children's Hospital of New Jersey that accurately reflect the unique costs associated with the development and provision of essential specialized services to seriously ill children.

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

NEWS RELEASE

CN-001

Contact: CARL GOLDEN
609-292-8956

TRENTON, N.J. 08625

Release: TUES., AUGUST 27, 1985

Governor Thomas H. Kean today signed legislation designating Children's Hospital, a part of the United Hospitals Medical Center of Newark, as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital, and appropriating \$4.5 million to the hospital to cover expenses incurred by the children's hospital unit.

Kean signed the bills, S-2874 and S-2875, both sponsored by Senator Richard Codey, D-Essex, at a public ceremony at the hospital.

The bill designating the facility as the acute care children's hospital also requires the Commissioner of Health to develop reimbursement rates under the State's Diagnostic Related Groups (DRG) system to more properly reflect the cost of care.

The \$4.5 million appropriation is to cover expenses incurred by the hospital under the DRG system for the years 1982 through 1985.

The new DRG reimbursement schedule is necessary because the existing system does not take into account the unique and more expensive specialized treatment required by children who are seriously ill.

"Children's Hospital serves youngsters suffering serious illnesses and has done so with much success for a number of years," Kean said. "The costs associated with this kind of quality health care are higher than for the adult population and requires the kind of assistance these two bills will provide."

S-2874 AND S-2875 SIGNED
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"In the absence of financial help as well as the designation as an acute care facility, Children's Hospital would stand in peril of curtailing these essential life-saving services or, at worst, closing its doors," Kean said.

"There are children leading normal, healthy lives today because of the care they received at Children's Hospital," the Governor said. "We have an obligation to support the continuance of these services to the extent possible to assure that other youngsters in need of medical care will be able to find it."

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