



**VETO MESSAGE:** No

**GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:** No

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

**REPORTS:** No

**HEARINGS:** No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** No

LAW/KR

P.L.2013, CHAPTER 67, *approved June 13, 2013*  
Assembly, No. 792 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning specialty care transportation units and  
2 supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. a. A general hospital licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136  
8 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) shall establish protocols to <sup>2</sup>**ensure** request<sup>2</sup>  
9 immediate dispatch, timely patient pick-up from the sending  
10 hospital, and transport to the receiving hospital by a specialty care  
11 transportation unit <sup>1</sup>**[(SCTU)], or SCTU,**<sup>1</sup> used for patient inter-  
12 facility transfers.

13 b. A general hospital shall establish contingency SCTU  
14 transport protocols in the event that the hospital's designated SCTU  
15 is not immediately available for dispatch.

16 c. <sup>1</sup>**[A hospital shall submit its protocols established pursuant**  
17 **to this section to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services**  
18 **for review]** The Department of Health <sup>2</sup>**[and Senior Services]**<sup>2</sup>  
19 shall ensure, by means of its periodic inspection of a hospital and  
20 such other measures as it deems appropriate, that the hospital has  
21 established and implemented the protocols required pursuant to  
22 subsections a. and b. of this section.

23 d. A hospital that fails to comply with the provisions of this act  
24 shall be liable to a penalty in accordance with the provisions of  
25 sections 13 and 14 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-13 and C.26:2H-  
26 14)<sup>1</sup>.

27  
28 2. The <sup>1</sup>**[commissioner]** Commissioner of Health <sup>2</sup>**[and Senior**  
29 **Services]**<sup>2</sup> shall adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure  
30 Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), <sup>1</sup>such<sup>1</sup> rules and  
31 regulations <sup>1</sup>as are necessary<sup>1</sup> to effectuate the purposes of this act.  
32

33 3. This act shall take effect on the <sup>1</sup>**[90th day after]** first day of  
34 the fourth month next following the date of<sup>1</sup> enactment, but the  
35 commissioner may take such anticipatory administrative action in

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 underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AHE committee amendments adopted May 10, 2012.

<sup>2</sup>Senate SHH committee amendments adopted December 17, 2012.

1 advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this  
2 act.

3

4

5

6

7 Directs hospitals to establish protocols for dispatch and patient  
8 transport by specialty care transportation units used for inter-facility  
9 transfers.

**ASSEMBLY, No. 792**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**215th LEGISLATURE**

---

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2012 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman NANCY F. MUNOZ**

**District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)**

**Assemblyman JERRY GREEN**

**District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Directs hospitals to establish protocols for dispatch and patient transport by specialty care transportation units used for inter-facility transfers.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/11/2012)**

1 AN ACT concerning specialty care transportation units and  
2 supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. A general hospital licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136  
8 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) shall establish protocols to ensure immediate  
9 dispatch, timely patient pick-up from the sending hospital, and  
10 transport to the receiving hospital by a specialty care transportation  
11 unit (SCTU) used for patient inter-facility transfers.

12 b. A general hospital shall establish contingency SCTU  
13 transport protocols in the event that the hospital's designated SCTU  
14 is not immediately available for dispatch.

15 c. A hospital shall submit its protocols established pursuant to  
16 this section to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services for  
17 review.

18

19 2. The commissioner shall adopt, pursuant to the  
20 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
21 seq.), rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.

22

23 3. This act shall take effect on the 90th day after enactment, but  
24 the commissioner may take such anticipatory administrative action in  
25 advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this  
26 act.

27

28

29

STATEMENT

30

31 This bill directs general hospitals, licensed under P.L.1971,  
32 c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.), to establish protocols to ensure  
33 immediate dispatch, timely patient pick-up from the sending  
34 hospital, and transport to the receiving hospital by a specialty care  
35 transportation unit (SCTU) used for patient inter-facility transfers.  
36 In addition, this bill requires hospitals to establish contingency  
37 SCTU transport protocols in the event that a hospital's SCTU is not  
38 immediately available for dispatch. This bill also requires hospitals  
39 to submit its protocols to the Commissioner of Health and Senior  
40 Services for review.

41

42 SCTUs provide transport between health care facilities for those  
43 patients requiring a standard of care greater than that of a Basic Life  
44 Support ambulance. SCTUs transport high level acuity, critically ill  
45 and compromised patients between health care facilities when  
46 patients' needs exceed a level of care currently available to them.  
47 SCTUs are generally stocked with advanced life support equipment,  
including, but not limited to, medications, cardiac monitoring

1 equipment, and ventilators, and are staffed with skilled health care  
2 professionals.

3 The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) licenses  
4 SCTU providers. Currently, there are 31 SCTU providers licensed  
5 by DHSS.

6 Under this bill, the commissioner is to adopt, pursuant to the  
7 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
8 seq.), rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this bill.

9 The bill takes effect on the 90th day after enactment, but  
10 authorizes the commissioner to take anticipatory administrative  
11 action in advance as necessary for its implementation.

# ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 792**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 10, 2012

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 792.

As amended by the committee, this bill directs hospitals to establish protocols for dispatch and patient transport by specialty care transportation units (SCTUs) used for inter-facility transfers.

Specifically, the bill requires that a licensed general hospital establish protocols to ensure immediate dispatch, timely patient pick-up from the sending hospital, and transport to the receiving hospital by a SCTU used for patient inter-facility transfers, as well as contingency SCTU transport protocols in the event that the hospital's designated SCTU is not immediately available for dispatch.

The Department of Health and Senior Services is to ensure, by means of its periodic inspection of a hospital and such other measures as it deems appropriate, that the hospital has established and implemented the required protocols.

A hospital that fails to comply with the provisions of the bill is liable to a penalty in accordance with the provisions of sections 13 and 14 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-13 and C.26:2H-14).

The bill takes effect on the first day of the fourth month next following the date of enactment, but authorizes the commissioner to take prior administrative action as necessary for its implementation.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2012-2013 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments to the bill:

- require the Department of Health and Senior Services to ensure, by means of its periodic inspection of a hospital and such other measures as it deems appropriate, that the hospital has established and implemented the required protocols;
- subject a hospital that fails to comply with the provisions of the bill to a penalty in accordance with the provisions of sections 13 and 14 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-13 and C.26:2H-14);



- qualify the requirement that the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services adopt rules and regulations, to be only as necessary to effectuate the purposes of the bill; and
- change the effective date of the bill from the 90th day after enactment to the first day of the fourth month next following the date of enactment.

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR  
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 792**

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 17, 2012

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with amendments Assembly Bill No. 792 (1R).

As amended by the committee, this bill directs hospitals to establish protocols for dispatch and patient transport by specialty care transportation units (SCTUs) used for inter-facility transfers.

Specifically, the bill requires that a licensed general hospital establish protocols to request immediate dispatch, timely patient pick-up from the sending hospital, and transport to the receiving hospital by a SCTU used for patient inter-facility transfers, as well as contingency SCTU transport protocols in the event that the hospital's designated SCTU is not immediately available for dispatch.

The Department of Health is to ensure, by means of its periodic inspection of a hospital and such other measures as it deems appropriate, that the hospital has established and implemented the required protocols.

A hospital that fails to comply with the provisions of the bill is liable to a penalty in accordance with the provisions of sections 13 and 14 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-13 and C.26:2H-14).

The bill takes effect on the first day of the fourth month next following the date of enactment, but authorizes the commissioner to take prior administrative action as necessary for its implementation.

The committee amendments provide that hospitals establish protocols to "request" (rather than "ensure") dispatch and patient transport by specialty care transportation units (SCTUs) used for inter-facility transfers, and update references to the Department of Health to conform to current law. As amended, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No.1973 SCA (O'Toole), which the committee also reported favorably on this date.

**SENATE, No. 1973**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**215th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED MAY 24, 2012

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator KEVIN J. O'TOOLE**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Directs hospitals to establish protocols for dispatch and patient transport by specialty care transportation units used for inter-facility transfers.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning specialty care transportation units and  
2 supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. A general hospital licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136  
8 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) shall establish protocols to ensure immediate  
9 dispatch, timely patient pick-up from the sending hospital, and  
10 transport to the receiving hospital by a specialty care transportation  
11 unit, or SCTU, used for patient inter-facility transfers.

12 b. A general hospital shall establish contingency SCTU  
13 transport protocols in the event that the hospital's designated SCTU  
14 is not immediately available for dispatch.

15 c. The Department of Health and Senior Services shall ensure,  
16 by means of its periodic inspection of a hospital and such other  
17 measures as it deems appropriate, that the hospital has established  
18 and implemented the protocols required pursuant to subsections a.  
19 and b. of this section.

20 d. A hospital that fails to comply with the provisions of this act  
21 shall be liable to a penalty in accordance with the provisions of  
22 sections 13 and 14 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-13 and C.26:2H-  
23 14).

24

25 2. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall  
26 adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968,  
27 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), such rules and regulations as are  
28 necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act.

29

30 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month  
31 next following the date of enactment, but the commissioner may  
32 take such anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof as  
33 shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.

34

35

36

#### STATEMENT

37

38 This bill directs hospitals to establish protocols for dispatch and  
39 patient transport by specialty care transportation units (SCTUs)  
40 used for inter-facility transfers.

41 Specifically, the bill requires that a licensed general hospital  
42 establish protocols to ensure immediate dispatch, timely patient  
43 pick-up from the sending hospital, and transport to the receiving  
44 hospital by a SCTU used for patient inter-facility transfers, as well  
45 as contingency SCTU transport protocols in the event that the  
46 hospital's designated SCTU is not immediately available for  
47 dispatch.

**S1973 O'TOOLE**

3

1       The Department of Health and Senior Services is to ensure, by  
2 means of its periodic inspection of a hospital and such other  
3 measures as it deems appropriate, that the hospital has established  
4 and implemented the required protocols.

5       A hospital that fails to comply with the provisions of the bill is  
6 liable to a penalty in accordance with the provisions of sections 13  
7 and 14 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-13 and C.26:2H-14).

8       The bill takes effect on the first day of the fourth month next  
9 following the date of enactment, but authorizes the commissioner to  
10 take prior administrative action as necessary for its implementation.

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR  
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 1973**

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 17, 2012

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with amendments Senate Bill No.1973.

As amended by the committee, this bill directs hospitals to establish protocols for dispatch and patient transport by specialty care transportation units (SCTUs) used for inter-facility transfers.

Specifically, the bill requires that a licensed general hospital establish protocols to request immediate dispatch, timely patient pick-up from the sending hospital, and transport to the receiving hospital by a SCTU used for patient inter-facility transfers, as well as contingency SCTU transport protocols in the event that the hospital's designated SCTU is not immediately available for dispatch.

The Department of Health is to ensure, by means of its periodic inspection of a hospital and such other measures as it deems appropriate, that the hospital has established and implemented the required protocols.

A hospital that fails to comply with the provisions of the bill is liable to a penalty in accordance with the provisions of sections 13 and 14 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-13 and C.26:2H-14).

The bill takes effect on the first day of the fourth month next following the date of enactment, but authorizes the commissioner to take prior administrative action as necessary for its implementation.

The committee amendments provide that hospitals establish protocols to "request" (rather than "ensure") dispatch and patient transport by specialty care transportation units (SCTUs) used for inter-facility transfers, and update references to the Department of Health to conform to current law.

As amended, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No.792 (1R) SCA (Munoz/Green), which the committee also reported favorably on this date.