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P.L. 1999, CHAPTER 317, *approved January 6, 2000*
Senate, No. 401

1 **AN ACT** concerning the interception of official communications and
2 amending P.L.1991, c.432.

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

6
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1991, c.432 (C.2C:33-21) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. Any person who intercepts any message or transmission made
10 on or over any police, fire or emergency medical communications
11 system, or any person who is the recipient of information so
12 intercepted, and who uses the information obtained thereby to
13 facilitate the commission of or the attempt to commit a crime or a
14 violation of any law of this State, or uses the same in a manner which
15 interferes with the discharge of police or firefighting operations or
16 provision of medical services by first aid, rescue or ambulance squad
17 personnel, shall be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.
18 (cf: P.L.1991, c.432, s.1)

19
20 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

21
22
23

STATEMENT

24
25 This bill makes it a crime to "jump" official emergency calls. Under
26 the bill, a person who uses information intercepted from police, fire or
27 emergency medical communications systems to interfere with
28 responding first aid, rescue or ambulance squad members or
29 firefighters rendering assistance would be guilty of a fourth-degree
30 crime. It is currently a fourth-degree crime to use such intercepted
31 information to commit a crime or interfere with the discharge of police
32 operations. Fourth-degree crimes are punishable by a term of
33 imprisonment not to exceed 18 months, a maximum fine of \$7,500, or
34 both.

35 The purpose of the bill is to enhance public safety by deterring
36 persons from disrupting medical personnel and firefighters during
37 emergencies.

38
39
40

41 Criminalizes "jumping" emergency calls.

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

SENATE, No. 401

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 20, 1998

Sponsored by:

Senator ROBERT E. LITTELL

District 24 (Sussex, Hunterdon and Morris)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Senators Allen, Bucco, Assemblyman Kramer and Assemblywoman
Crecco**

SYNOPSIS

Criminalizes "jumping" emergency calls.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/14/1999)

S401 LITTELL

2

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.

[Corrected Copy]

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 401

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 2, 1999

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 401.

Senate Bill No. 401 makes it a crime to "jump" official emergency calls. Under the bill, a person who uses information intercepted from police, fire or emergency medical communications systems to interfere with responding first aid, rescue or ambulance squad members or firefighters rendering assistance are guilty of a crime of the fourth degree. It is currently a fourth-degree crime to use such intercepted information to commit a crime or interfere with the discharge of police operations. Fourth-degree crimes are punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to 18 months, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

This bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3151, also reported by the committee on this date.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 401

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 25, 1999

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 401.

This bill makes it a crime to "jump" official emergency calls. Under the bill, a person who uses information intercepted from police, fire or emergency medical communications systems to interfere with responding first aid, rescue or ambulance squad members or firefighters rendering assistance would be guilty of a fourth-degree crime. It is currently a fourth-degree crime to use such intercepted information to commit a crime or interfere with the discharge of police operations. Fourth-degree crimes are punishable by a term of imprisonment not to exceed 18 months, a maximum fine of \$10,000, or both.

The purpose of the bill is to enhance public safety by deterring persons from disrupting medical personnel and firefighters during emergencies.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3151

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 17, 1999

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman PAUL KRAMER

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman MARION CRECCO

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Criminalizes "jumping" emergency calls.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



A3151 KRAMER, CRECCO

2

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3151

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 2, 1999

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3151.

Assembly Bill No. 3151 makes it a crime to "jump" official emergency calls. Under the bill, a person who uses information intercepted from police, fire or emergency medical communications systems to interfere with responding first aid, rescue or ambulance squad members or firefighters rendering assistance are guilty of a crime of the fourth degree. It is currently a fourth-degree crime to use such intercepted information to commit a crime or interfere with the discharge of police operations. Fourth-degree crimes are punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to 18 months, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 401, also reported by the committee on this date.

Office of the Governor
NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX 004
TRENTON, NJ 08625

CONTACT: Gene Herman
609-777-2600

RELEASE: January 6, 2000

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following pieces of legislation:

S-1551, sponsored by Senators Nicholas J. Sacco (D-Bergen/Hudson) and Henry P. McNamara (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Assembly Members John E. Rooney (R-Bergen) and David C. Russo (R-Bergen/Passaic), authorizes the board of education of a school district to apply to the economic Development Administration (EDA) for an interest- free loan for the costs of cleaning up a leaking tank, or upgrading or closing a regulated tank.

S-2013, sponsored by Senators Norman M. Robertson (R-Essex/Passaic) and William L. Gormley (R-Atlantic) and Assembly Members Joseph V. Doria, Jr. (D-Hudson) and Anthony M. Impreveduto (D-Bergen/Hudson), prohibits physicians, chiropractors, and other health care professionals from soliciting professional employment from accident and disaster victims within the 30-day period after the accident or disaster. The bill also provides for a criminal penalty against attorneys who violate the rules of professional conduct by contacting victims.

SCS for S-1613, sponsored by Senators C. Louis Bassano (R-Essex/Union) and Henry P. McNamara (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Assembly Members John E. Rooney (R-Bergen) and David C. Russo (R-Bergen/Passaic), establishes a certification requirement for persons removing or installing an unregulated storage tank. Unregulated storage tanks are those used for residential purposes and non-residential tanks under 2000 gallons.

S-1941, sponsored by Senators Richard J. Codey (D-Essex) and Donald T. DiFrancesco (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Assembly Members Joseph V. Doria, Jr. (D-Hudson) and Jack Collins (R-Salem/Cumberland/Gloucester), establishes the Senator Wynona Lipman Chair in Political Leadership at the Center for the American Woman and Politics at the Eagleton Institute of Politics. The bill appropriates \$100,000 to finance the chair. The bill is a tribute to the late Senator Lipman.

S-908, sponsored by Senators Joseph A. Palaia (R-Monmouth) and John Matheussen (R-Camden/Gloucester) and Assembly Member Tom Smith (R-Monmouth) reduces the minimum eligibility age for membership in the Junior Firemen's Auxiliary from 16 to 14.

S-1370, sponsored by Senator James S. Cafiero (R-Atlantic/Cape May/Cumberland) and Assembly Members John C. Gibson (R-Atlantic/Cape May/Cumberland) and Nicholas Asselta (R-Atlantic/Cape May/Cumberland), extends to elementary students certain drug counseling-related confidentiality protections currently available to secondary students. The bill is intended to encourage students to seek out drug counseling and foster greater communication between students and counselors.

S-1061, sponsored by Senators Martha W. Bark (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Camden) and John A. Girgenti (D-Passaic) and Assembly Members Richard A. Merkt (R-Morris) and Michael Patrick Carroll (R-Morris), repeals, recodifies and supplements a number of statutes dealing with evidence and service of process. The bill embodies the recommendations of the New Jersey Law Revision Commission, which in 1996 undertook a review of these statutes.

S-273, sponsored by the late Senator Wynona Lipman (D-Essex/Union) and Assembly Member Craig A. Stanley (D-Essex), grants voting rights to student members of the Commission on Higher Education.

S-1954, sponsored by Senators C. Louis Bassano (R-Essex/Union) and Donald T. DiFrancesco (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Assembly Members Kevin J. O'Toole (R-Essex/ Union) and Joel M. Weingarten (R-Essex/Union), permits the Governor to appoint up to three out-of-state alumni to the boards of trustees of each of the nine state colleges and universities. Previously, all members of the boards of trustees were required to be citizens of New Jersey.

A-2392, sponsored by Assembly Members Paul DiGaetano (R- Bergen/Essex/Passaic) and Doria (D-Hudson) and Senator C. Louis Bassano (R- Essex/Union), permits a chiropractor licensed to practice in New Jersey (or a bordering state) to certify a person as handicapped for purposes of handicapped parking. Under previous law, only a licensed physician or podiatrist could grant this certification.

A-2781, sponsored by Assembly Members Connie Myers (R- Warren/Hunterdon/Mercer) and Guy R. Gregg (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Senator Martha W. Bark (R-Atlantic/ Burlington/Camden), allows the issuance of a permit to farmers to kill deer because of crop damage incurred anytime in the prior year. In order to receive the special permit, the bill allows the Division of Fish and Wildlife to require a farmer to demonstrate that he or she has sustained crop damage due to deer during the previous 12- month period.

S-401, sponsored by Senator Robert E. Littell (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Assembly Members Paul R. Kramer (R-Mercer/Middlesex) and Marion Crecco (R-Essex/Passaic), criminalizes "jumping" emergency calls. The bill's purpose is to enhance public safety by preventing persons from disrupting medical personnel and firefighters during emergencies. As a result of the bill, it is now a fourth-degree crime to use intercepted information to interfere with fire fighting operations or the provision of medical services by first aid, rescue or ambulance squad personnel.

A-3250, sponsored by Assembly Members Richard A. Merkt (R-Morris) and Guy R. Gregg (R-Sussex/ Hunterdon/Morris) and Senators Louis F. Kosco (R- Bergen) and Dr. Gerald Cardinale (R-Bergen), forbids tax stamping, and therefore, the sale of re-imported cigarettes originally produced for export. The bill attempts to ban gray market cigarettes by amending the Cigarette Tax Act to prohibit tobacco distributors from affixing cigarette tax stamps on cigarette packages that are repatriated. There are currently 24 states that have enacted similar legislation.