

26:2H-12.3 to 26:2H-12.5

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 26:2H-12.3 to 26:2H-12.5

(Senior Citizens Hospital
Respite Care Pilot
Program)

LAWS OF: 1986

CHAPTER 11

BILL NO: A643

Sponsor(s): Randall

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: Senior Citizens

Senate: Aging

Amended during passage: Yes

Substituted for S1863 (not attached
since identical to A643). Amendments
during passage denoted by asterisks.

Date of Passage:

Assembly:

February 24, 1986

Senate:

March 10, 1986

Date of Approval:

May 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:

No

Hearings:

No

See newspaper clippings--attached:

"Hospitals can provide respite care programs", 5-3-86 Star Ledger,

Governor's Annual Message, referred to in clippings--attached:

5-2-86

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]
ASSEMBLY, No. 643

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1986 SESSION

By Assemblywoman RANDALL

AN ACT providing for the establishment of hospital respite care programs for senior citizens and making an appropriation.

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

1 1. A general hospital which has had an average of 20% or more
2 of its beds vacant on weekends over a six month period may apply
3 to the Commissioner of Health for permission to establish a hos-
4 pital respite care program for senior citizens. Under such a pro-
5 gram, otherwise empty hospital facilities, in a section separate
6 from medical and surgical patients, shall be used to provide shelter,
7 food, recreation and supervision to senior citizens age 65 or older
8 who are ordinarily dependent upon family members or others for
9 their care. The purpose of the hospital respite care program is
10 to provide quality care to the elderly while enabling those who
11 ordinarily care for an elderly person to be temporarily relieved of
12 the stress of this responsibility. A hospital having an overall
13 vacancy rate in excess of 20% over a six month period may also
14 apply to the commissioner for permission to offer this service on
15 weekdays for periods determined by the commissioner.

1 2. A hospital applying for permission to establish a hospital
2 respite care program is not required to apply for a certificate of
3 need pursuant to section 7 of P. L. 1971, c. 136 (C. 26:2H-7) and
4 is required to demonstrate only that it has the vacancy rate re-
5 quired by this act and adequate staff to serve the number of senior
6 citizens it proposes to accept. However, rates to be charged by the
7 hospital for this service are subject to the approval of the Hospital

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 February 10, 1986.**

8 Rate Setting Commission pursuant to section 5 of P. L. 1978, c. 83
9 (C. 26:2H-4.1).

1 3. The Commissioner of Health shall, pursuant to the "Adminis-
2 trative Procedure Act," P. L. 1968, c. 410 (C. 52:14B-1 et seq.),
3 promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to
4 effectuate the purposes of this act.

1 4. There is appropriated *~~[\$99,000.00]~~* *\$50,000.00* from the
2 General Fund to the Department of Health to effectuate the pur-
3 poses of this act.

1 5. This act shall take effect *~~[immediately]~~* *July 1, 1986*.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Establishes a hospital respite care program for senior citizens;
appropriates \$50,000.00.

ASSEMBLY, No. 643

Introduced Pending Technical Review, by Legislative Counsel
PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1986 SESSION

By Assemblywoman RANDALL

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

ASSEMBLY, No. 3916

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 9, 1985

Sponsored by Assemblywoman RANDALL

AN ACT providing for the establishment of hospital respite care programs for senior citizens and making an appropriation.

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

1 1. A general hospital which has had an average of 20% or more
2 of its beds vacant on weekends over a six month period may apply
3 to the Commissioner of Health for permission to establish a hos-
4 pital respite care program for senior citizens. Under such a pro-
5 gram, otherwise empty hospital facilities, in a section separate
6 from medical and surgical patients, shall be used to provide shelter,
7 food, recreation and supervision to senior citizens age 65 or older
8 who are ordinarily dependent upon family members or others for
9 their care. The purpose of the hospital respite care program is
10 to provide quality care to the elderly while enabling those who
11 ordinarily care for an elderly person to be temporarily relieved of
12 the stress of this responsibility. A hospital having an overall
13 vacancy rate in excess of 20% over a six month period may also
14 apply to the commissioner for permission to offer this service on
15 weekdays for periods determined by the commissioner.

1 2. A hospital applying for permission to establish a hospital
2 respite care program is not required to apply for a certificate of
3 need pursuant to section 7 of P. L. 1971, c. 136 (C. 26:2H-7) and
4 is required to demonstrate only that it has the vacancy rate re-
5 quired by this act and adequate staff to serve the number of senior
6 citizens it proposes to accept. However, rates to be charged by the
7 hospital for this service are subject to the approval of the Hospital

8 Rate Setting Commission pursuant to section 5 of P. L. 1978, c. 83
9 (C. 26:2H-4.1).

1 3. The Commissioner of Health shall, pursuant to the "Adminis-
2 trative Procedure Act," P. L. 1968, c. 410 (C. 52:14B-1 et seq.),
3 promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to
4 effectuate the purposes of this act.

1 4. There is appropriated \$99,000.00 from the General Fund to
2 the Department of Health to effectuate the purposes of this act.

1 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill permits a general hospital which has had a vacancy rate of 20% or more on weekends over a six month period to apply to the Commissioner of Health for permission to establish a hospital respite care program for senior citizens. Such a program would use otherwise empty hospital facilities, in a separate section of the hospital, to provide shelter, food, recreation and supervision to senior citizens age 65 or older who ordinarily depend upon family members or others for their care. The purpose of such a program is to provide elderly persons with quality care while permitting those who ordinarily provide them with daily care to be temporarily relieved of this responsibility. A hospital with an overall vacancy rate in excess of 20% over a six month period may also apply to the commissioner for permission to offer this service on weekdays. Hospitals seeking to establish a hospital respite care program would not be required to apply for a certificate of need. They would merely have to show that they have the required vacancy rate and adequate staff to care for the number of senior citizens they propose to accept. Rates charged by a hospital for this service would be subject to the approval of the Hospital Rate Setting Commission.

The sum of \$99,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health to establish the Senior Citizen Hospital Respite Care Pilot Program.

ASSEMBLY SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 643

with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 10, 1986

The Assembly Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 643 with committee amendments.

This bill permits a general hospital which has had a vacancy rate of 20% or more on weekends over a six month period to apply to the Commissioner of Health for permission to establish a hospital respite care program for senior citizens. Such a program would use otherwise empty hospital facilities, in a separate section of the hospital, to provide shelter, food, recreation and supervision to senior citizens age 65 or older who ordinarily depend upon family members or others for their care. The purpose of such a program is to provide elderly persons with quality care while permitting those who ordinarily provide them with daily care to be temporarily relieved of this responsibility. A hospital with an overall vacancy rate in excess of 20% over a six month period may also apply to the commissioner for permission to offer this service on weekdays. Hospitals seeking to establish a hospital respite care program would not be required to apply for a certificate of need. They would merely have to show that they have the required vacancy rate and adequate staff to care for the number of senior citizens they propose to accept. Rates charged by a hospital for this service would be subject to the approval of the Hospital Rate Setting Commission.

The bill was amended to appropriate \$50,000.00 instead of \$99,000.00 from the General Fund to the Department of Health to establish the senior citizen hospital respite care program. A technical amendment changed the effective date of the bill to July 1, 1986.

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 COMMITTEE ON AGING
STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 643

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 6, 1986

The Senate Committee on Aging favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 643.

This bill provides for the establishment of hospital respite care programs for senior citizens in general hospitals.

In order to qualify for the program the hospital must meet the following criteria: (1) have an average of 20% or more of its beds vacant on weekends over a six months period; or (2) have an overall vacancy rate in excess of 20% over a six month period. A general hospital shall apply to the Commissioner of Health for authorization to establish a hospital respite care program for senior citizens.

The respite care beds in the general hospital shall be located in a section separate from the medical and surgical beds in the facility and the section shall be used to provide shelter, food, recreation and supervision to senior citizens age 65 or older who are ordinarily dependent upon members of the family or others for their care. The purpose of the hospital respite care program is to provide quality care to the elderly while enabling those who ordinarily care for a senior citizen to be temporarily relieved of the stress of this responsibility.

Hospitals seeking to establish a hospital respite care program would not be required to apply for a certificate of need. They would only have to show that they have the required vacancy rate and adequate staff to care for the number of senior citizens they propose to accept. Rates charged by a hospital for this service would be subject to the approval of the Hospital Rate Setting Commission. The bill appropriates \$50,000.00 to the Department of Health to establish the senior citizen hospital respite care program.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1863 which was also reported by the committee on March 6, 1986.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR NEWS RELEASE

CN-001

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TRENTON, N.J. 08625

Release: MON., MAY 5, 1986

Governor Thomas H. Kean today signed legislation to establish a respite care program for senior citizens using hospitals to ease the stress on individuals who normally provide at home care for the patient.

The legislation, A-643, was sponsored by Assemblywoman Elizabeth Randall, R-Bergen.

The respite care program was recommended by the Governor in his annual message to the Legislature. Its aim is to provide quality health care to the elderly while enabling those who ordinarily care for the person to be temporarily relieved of the responsibility.

"To those families who are caring for an elderly parent or relative, a respite is a most welcome break," Kean said. "No matter how great the love and compassion might be, there is a genuine benefit to the well being of the individual to be relieved temporarily of the stress of responsibility."

Under the terms of the bill, the program is open on an application basis to hospitals with an overall vacancy rate in excess of 20 percent over a six-month period.

Rates to be charged by the hospital for the respite care program are subject to approval by the State's Hospital Rate Setting Commission.

The legislation is effective on July 1 and provides \$50,000 to the State Department of Health to structure the program.

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