

ASSEMBLY, No. 3114

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO
District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Revises definition of volunteer first aid, rescue, and ambulance squad under New Jersey Highway Traffic Safety Act of 1987.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning first aid, rescue, and ambulance squads and
2 amending P.L.1987, c.284.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 3 of P.L.1987, c.284 (C.27:5F-20) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 3. As used in this act:

10 a. "State highway traffic safety program" means all highway
11 traffic safety programs conducted by the State, political
12 subdivisions of the State, and qualifying nonprofit organizations.

13 b. "Local highway traffic safety program" means a highway
14 traffic safety program established or submitted to the Governor by a
15 political subdivision and qualifying nonprofit organizations
16 pursuant to the provisions of this act.

17 c. "Political subdivision" means any local political subdivision
18 of this State, including but not limited to a municipality, a county, a
19 township, a district, or a special district.

20 d. "Governor" means the Governor of the State of New Jersey.

21 e. "Director" shall mean the Director of the **【Office】** Division
22 of Highway Traffic Safety of the State of New Jersey.

23 f. "Volunteer first aid, rescue, and ambulance squad" means a
24 **【first aid, rescue and ambulance squad which】** not-for-profit basic
25 life support service organization that provides emergency medical
26 services **【without receiving】** and whose members do not directly
27 receive payment for those volunteer services. Members of a
28 volunteer first aid, rescue, and ambulance squad shall not lose their
29 individual right to any personal benefit to which members of a
30 volunteer squad are otherwise entitled because the squad bills third
31 parties for services rendered.

32 g. "Nonvolunteer first aid, rescue, and ambulance squad"
33 means a **【first aid, rescue and ambulance squad which】** basic life
34 support service organization that does not qualify as a volunteer
35 first aid, rescue, and ambulance squad as defined in subsection f. of
36 this section and provides emergency medical services on a paid
37 basis. Individuals who volunteer to provide emergency medical
38 services for a nonvolunteer first aid, rescue, and ambulance squad
39 shall be treated as members of a volunteer first aid, rescue, and
40 ambulance squad for the purpose of being entitled to any personal
41 benefit to which members of a volunteer squad are entitled.

42 h. "Nonprofit organization" means a nonprofit organization
43 which provides services throughout the State and is tax exempt
44 under section 501(c)(3) of the federal Internal Revenue Code (26
45 U.S.C. s.501(c)(3)), and is not a private foundation as defined 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.

1 section 509(a) of the federal Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C.
2 s.509(a)).
3 (cf: P.L.2007, c.84, s.1)
4

5 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
6
7

8 STATEMENT
9

10 This bill revises the definition of a “volunteer first aid, rescue, and
11 ambulance squad” to mean a first aid, rescue, and ambulance squad
12 which provides emergency medical services and whose members do
13 not directly receive payment. Under the bill, a member of a volunteer
14 squad would not lose the status of a “volunteer” and any rights
15 accorded volunteers even if the squad engages in third-party billing for
16 services rendered.

17 Under current law, a "volunteer first aid, rescue, and ambulance
18 squad" means a first aid, rescue, and ambulance squad which provides
19 emergency medical services without receiving payment for those
20 services.

21 This bill clarifies that members of a volunteer first aid, rescue, and
22 ambulance squad in municipalities with a third party billing program
23 maintain their volunteer status, thus entitling them to certain
24 statutorily-conferred benefits, including the right to use flashing blue
25 lights and free training for initial certification and recertification.
26 Under third party billing programs, private health insurance plans, auto
27 insurance companies, and government entitlement programs, such as
28 Medicaid and Medicare, are charged for services rendered by
29 municipal emergency first aid squads.

30 To qualify as a volunteer first aid squad under the current
31 definition, the squad cannot receive payment for services. This
32 definition may be interpreted to mean that in municipalities which
33 institute third party billing programs, the members of the squads are no
34 longer volunteers because the municipality is receiving payment for
35 the services rendered by the volunteers. To address this incongruity,
36 the bill specifies that members of a volunteer first aid, rescue, and
37 ambulance squad do not lose their status as volunteers when the squad
38 bills third parties for services rendered and that these volunteers do not
39 lose the right to any benefit otherwise conferred on members of a
40 volunteer squad.