

CHAPTER 116

AN ACT designating State specialty acute care children's hospitals for Monmouth and Ocean counties, supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes and amending P.L.1987, c.299 and P.L.1992, c.181.

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

C.26:2H-18g Specialty acute care children's hospitals for Monmouth, Ocean counties designated.

1. a. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, subject to the provisions of subsection b. of this section, shall designate Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Monmouth Medical Center, each, as the State's specialty acute care children's hospitals for Monmouth and Ocean counties, subject to the commissioner's determination that each hospital meets all of the licensure criteria that apply to a children's hospital and has met and complied with all of the requirements to obtain State authorization to offer the component services that constitute a children's hospital. The commissioner's determination and the designation pursuant thereto shall be made separately for each hospital; and the commissioner's decision on the designation of each hospital shall be made independently of, and shall not be contingent upon, the decision on the designation of the other hospital.

b. The designation of each hospital by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be made subsequent to, and shall be contingent upon, the execution of written transfer agreements, respectively, between: Jersey Shore University Medical Center and a majority of the acute care hospitals providing inpatient pediatric services located in Monmouth and Ocean counties; and Monmouth Medical Center and a majority of the acute care hospitals providing inpatient pediatric services located in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

The written agreement shall state that the other facility recognizes Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Monmouth Medical Center, as applicable, as the State's specialty acute care children's hospitals for Monmouth and Ocean counties and shall set forth the basis on which the other facility shall make referrals to Jersey Shore University Medical Center or Monmouth Medical Center, as applicable.

2. Section 3 of P.L.1987, c.299 (C.26:2H-18c) is amended to read as follows:

C.26:2H-18c Designation of specialty acute care children's hospital for southern New Jersey.

3. a. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, subject to the provisions of subsection b. of this section, shall designate Cooper University Hospital in the City of Camden as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital in southern New Jersey for the counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem.

b. The designation by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be made subsequent to, and shall be contingent upon, the execution of a written agreement between Cooper University Hospital and a majority of the acute care hospitals providing inpatient pediatric services which are located in the counties listed in subsection a. of this section.

The written agreement shall state that the other facility recognizes Cooper University Hospital as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital for the counties listed in subsection a. of this section and shall set forth the basis on which the other facility shall make referrals to Cooper University Hospital.

(cf: P.L.1992, c.181, s.3)

3. Section 1 of P.L.1992, c.181 (C.26:2H-18d) is amended to read as follows:

1. a. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, subject to the provisions of subsection b. of this section, shall designate Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital/St. Peter's University Hospital in the City of New Brunswick as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital in central New Jersey for the counties of Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset.

b. The designation by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be made subsequent to, and shall be contingent upon, the execution of a written agreement between Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital/St. Peter's

University Hospital and a majority of the acute care hospitals providing inpatient pediatric services which are located in the counties listed in subsection a. of this section.

The written agreement shall state that the other facility recognizes Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital/St. Peter's University Hospital as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital for the counties listed in subsection a. of this section and shall set forth the basis on which the other facility shall make referrals to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital/St. Peter's University Hospital.

4. Section 1 of this act shall take effect immediately, and sections 2 and 3 shall take effect upon the designation by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services of Jersey Shore University Medical Center or Monmouth Medical Center as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital for Monmouth and Ocean counties

Approved June 29, 2005.