

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1420

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require staff working with developmentally disabled individuals to call emergency services in the event of a life-threatening situation.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 17, 2007

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require staff working with developmentally disabled individuals to call emergency services in the event of a life-threatening situation.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as “Danielle’s Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT OF STAFF WORKING WITH DEVEL-**  
 2 **OPMENTALLY DISABLED INDIVIDUALS TO**  
 3 **CALL EMERGENCY SERVICES IN THE EVENT**  
 4 **OF A LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION.**

5 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Section 1902(a) of the Social  
 6 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (69), by striking “and” at the  
 8 end;

9 (2) in paragraph (70), by striking the period at  
 10 the end and inserting “; and”; and

11 (3) by inserting after paragraph (70) the fol-  
 12 lowing new paragraph:

13 “(71) provide, in accordance with regulations of  
 14 the Secretary, that direct care staff providing  
 15 health-related services to an individual with a devel-  
 16 opmental disability or traumatic brain injury are re-  
 17 quired to call the 911 emergency telephone service  
 18 or equivalent emergency management service for as-  
 19 sistance in the event of a life-threatening emergency  
 20 to such individual and to report such call to the ap-  
 21 propriate State agency or department.”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
 23 subsection (a) take effect on January 1, 2008.

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