



New Jersey State Archives Collection Guide

Record Group: Commission on Legal and Ethical Problems in the Delivery of Health Care

(New Jersey Bioethics Commission)

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Content Note

The New Jersey Commission on Legal and Ethical Problems in the Delivery of Health Care was created in November 1985 as a permanent state bioethics agency (P.L. 1985, chap. 363). The commission's duties were outlined as follows: 1) to clarify issues for persons making decisions about health care; 2) to gather data about decision-making regarding the termination and refusal of care and treatment; 3) to assess the need for additional programs and services relating to medical decision-making; 4) to suggest improvements in public policy relating to medical treatment at various levels; and 5) to offer guidance, through published reports, for people involved in making medical care decisions. The commission was authorized to hold public hearings for the purpose of gathering information and views from interested parties. It was also required to make triennial reports, beginning on 31 December 1988, to include information on the status of various ethical issues, such as treatment termination and living wills. Though created as a permanent body, the commission's funding expired in September 1992, after less than six years of operation.

This series consists of the general administrative records of the New Jersey Bioethics Commission, including minutes, public hearing transcripts, publications, subject files, committee and task force files, and audio tapes of meetings.

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