

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4127

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 2, 2022

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McKeon, McClellan, Simonsen, Benson, Tully, Assemblywoman Swain,
Senators Schepisi, Codey, Pou and Ruiz**

SYNOPSIS

Mandates access to periodic cancer screening examinations for professional firefighters not enrolled in SHBP; makes appropriation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Budget Committee on June 27, 2022, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/29/2022)

1 AN ACT mandating access to periodic cancer screening
2 examinations for full-time paid firefighters not enrolled in the
3 State Health Benefits Program, amending P.L.2021, c.478, and
4 making an appropriation.
5

6 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
7 *of New Jersey:*
8

9 1. Section 1 of P.L.2021, c.478 (C.52:14-17.29ii) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 1. a. A firefighter employed as a full-time paid employee of a
12 fire department or unit of this State or a political subdivision of this
13 State shall be provided a cancer screening examination conducted
14 by a physician not less than three years after the start of the
15 firefighter's employment as a firefighter and every three years
16 thereafter during the course of the firefighter's employment. The
17 examination shall include screening for, at a minimum and when
18 applicable, the following cancers:

- 19 (1) colon;
20 (2) lung;
21 (3) bladder;
22 (4) oral;
23 (5) thyroid;
24 (6) skin;
25 (7) blood;
26 (8) breast;
27 (9) cervical
28 (10) testicular; and
29 (11) prostate.

30 b. Subsection a. of this section shall apply **only** to a
31 firefighter enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program as
32 occupational coverage. For the purpose of this **[section]**
33 subsection, employment as a full-time paid employee of a fire
34 department or unit of this State or a political subdivision of this
35 State shall be a pre-existing condition.

36 c. ¹**The State Health Benefits Commission shall establish a**
37 **program to cover the cost of cancer screening examinations**
38 **pursuant to subsection a. of this section for a firefighter who is not**
39 **enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program when such**
40 **examinations are not otherwise covered by the health care benefits**
41 **plan or program provided to the firefighter by the employer or by**
42 **other health care coverage. The program shall require the**
43 **submission of such information by the provider and the firefighter**
44 **as shall be necessary to make a determination on coverage.**

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly ABU committee amendments adopted June 27, 2022.

1 Payment shall be made directly to providers. The program shall
2 make such payments from funds specifically appropriated to the
3 commission for this purpose. At no time shall the cost being
4 reimbursed to the provider for a cancer screening examination
5 exceed \$1,250.】

6 Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, rule, or
7 regulation to the contrary, beginning January 1, 2023 and for each
8 plan year thereafter, a public employer that does not participate in
9 the State Health Benefits Program shall provide health care benefits
10 coverage for its employees that offers cancer screening
11 examinations consistent with the requirement of subsection a. of
12 this section. A public employer that does not participate in the State
13 Health Benefits Program shall be eligible for reimbursement from
14 the State for its cost of providing benefits coverage for such
15 examinations; provided, however, at no time shall the cost being
16 reimbursed to the public employer by the State for the full
17 examination required under subsection a. of this section exceed
18 \$1,250 per three-year period for each firefighter.¹

19 No co-payment, deductible, coinsurance, or out-of-pocket
20 expense shall be required for such examinations.

21 ¹A public employer shall maintain adequate records to facilitate
22 the reimbursement authorized pursuant to this subsection.¹

23 For the purpose of this subsection, employment as a full-time
24 paid employee of a fire department or unit of this State or a political
25 subdivision of this State shall be a pre-existing condition. There
26 shall be an appropriation from the State General Fund in each
27 annual appropriations act of such funds as necessary for the
28 purposes of this section.

29 (cf: P.L.2021, c.478, s.1)

30
31 2. There is appropriated from the State General Fund to the
32 ¹【State Health Benefits Commission in the】¹ Department of the
33 Treasury \$2,000,000 for the purposes of subsection c. of section 1
34 of P.L.2021, c.478 (C.52:14-17.29ii).

35
36 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2023.