

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 2743**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JUNE 2, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Senator TROY SINGLETON**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

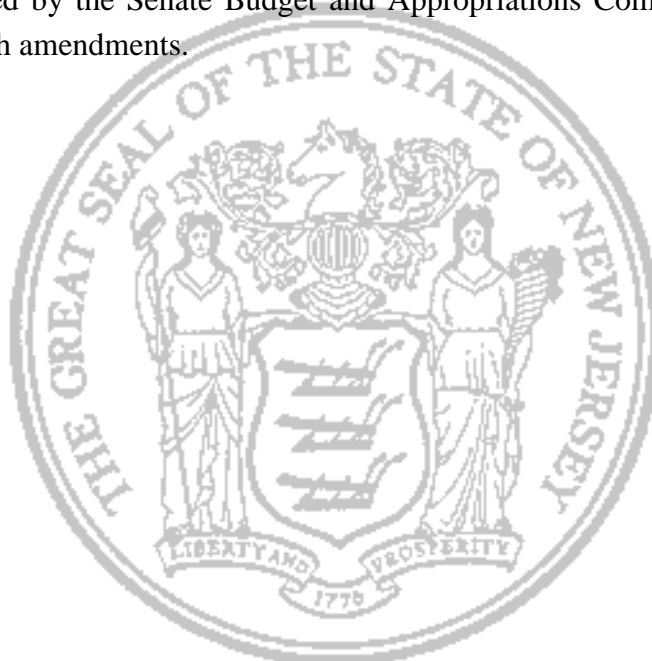
**Senators Schepisi, Codey, Pou and Ruiz**

**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 Senate Budget and Appropriations 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. <sup>1</sup>**[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:

<sup>1</sup>Senate SBA 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  
13 State Health Benefits Program shall be eligible for reimbursement  
14 from 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.<sup>1</sup>

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

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

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 <sup>1</sup>【State Health Benefits Commission in the】<sup>1</sup> 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.