

SENATE, No. 3295

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 3, 2022

Sponsored by:
Senator TROY SINGLETON
District 7 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Requires State Health Benefits Plan Design Committee include certain first responder titles in first responders primary care medical home program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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1 AN ACT concerning certain primary care medical home programs
2 for first responders established by the State Health Benefits Plan
3 Design Committee and supplementing P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-
4 17.25 et seq.).

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

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9 1. a. Whenever the State Health Benefits Plan Design Committee
10 of the State Health Benefits Program establishes a primary care
11 medical home pilot program or permanent program for first
12 responders to provide comprehensive primary care services,
13 including pharmacy, preventive care, episodic sick care, basic
14 urgent care, disease management, medication management,
15 behavioral health, pain management services, health and wellness
16 coaching, immunizations, and lab draws and collections, and
17 including the capability to coordinate care of comprehensive
18 specialist, hospital, and outpatient services, the program shall
19 include first responders as defined in subsection b. this section.

20 b. As used in this section, “first responders” means, but may not
21 be limited to, employees of police and fire departments, emergency
22 medical service personnel, dispatchers, park rangers, State and local
23 correctional facility personnel, child protection and permanency
24 investigators, medical examiners, Office of the Attorney General
25 investigators and county prosecutor’s office investigators, and
26 certain designated support staff, and similar personnel in first
27 responder titles represented by the Communication Workers of
28 America and the American Federation of State, County, and
29 Municipal Employees, as well as their dependents, who are covered
30 by the State Health Benefits Program.

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32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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37 Under current law, the State Health Benefits Plan Design
38 Committee of the State Health Benefits Program is responsible for
39 and has authority over the various State employee health benefits
40 plans and components of those plans, including for medical
41 benefits, prescription benefits, dental, vision, and any other health
42 care benefits, that are offered and administered by the State Health
43 Benefits Program. The committee has the authority to create,
44 modify, or terminate any plan or component, at its sole discretion.

45 This bill requires the State Health Benefits Plan Design
46 Committee to include certain first responder titles in any first
47 responders primary care medical home program it adopts and
48 implements. Under the bill, whenever the State Health Benefits

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1 Plan Design Committee establishes a primary care medical home
2 pilot program or permanent program for first responders to provide
3 comprehensive primary care services, including pharmacy,
4 preventive care, episodic sick care, basic urgent care, disease
5 management, medication management, behavioral health, pain
6 management services, health and wellness coaching,
7 immunizations, and lab draws and collections, and including the
8 capability to coordinate care of comprehensive specialist, hospital,
9 and outpatient services, the program would be required to include
10 first responders as defined in the bill. Under the bill, “first
11 responders” means, but may not be limited to, employees of police
12 and fire departments, emergency medical service personnel,
13 dispatchers, park rangers, State and local correctional facility
14 personnel, child protection and permanency investigators, medical
15 examiners, Office of the Attorney General investigators and county
16 prosecutor’s office investigators, and certain designated support
17 staff, and similar personnel in first responder titles represented by
18 the Communication Workers of America and the American
19 Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, as well as
20 their dependents, who are covered by the State Health Benefits
21 Program.