

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1899

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT**

**District 29 (Essex and Hudson)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Expands authority of pharmacy technician in administering drugs and vaccines and permits pharmacists and pharmacy interns, externs, and technicians to administer COVID-19 vaccine.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning pharmacists and pharmacy interns, externs, and  
2 technicians, COVID-19 vaccines, and amending P.L.2003, c.280.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 24 of P.L.2003, c.280 (C.45:14-63) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 24. a. No pharmacist shall administer a prescription medication  
10 directly to a patient without appropriate education **[or certification]**  
11 and training, as determined by the board in accordance with the  
12 requirements set forth in the rules jointly promulgated by the board  
13 and the State Board of Medical Examiners. Such medication shall  
14 only be for the treatment of a disease for which a nationally  
15 certified program is in effect, or as determined by the board, and  
16 only if utilized for the treatment of that disease for which the  
17 medication is prescribed or indicated or for which the collaborative  
18 drug therapy management permits.

19 b. (1) Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the  
20 contrary, a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, **[or]** pharmacy extern, or  
21 pharmacy technician may administer drugs to a patient 18 years of  
22 age or older, provided the pharmacist, pharmacy intern, **[or]**  
23 pharmacy extern, or pharmacy technician is appropriately educated  
24 and qualified, as determined by the board in accordance with the  
25 requirements set forth in the rules jointly promulgated by the board  
26 and the State Board of Medical Examiners, and provided the drugs  
27 are administered under any one of the following conditions:

28 (a) pursuant to a prescription by an authorized prescriber for a  
29 vaccine and related emergency medications;

30 (b) in immunization programs implemented pursuant to an  
31 authorized prescriber's standing order for the vaccine and related  
32 emergency medications; or

33 (c) in immunization programs and programs sponsored by  
34 governmental agencies that are not patient specific.

35 (2) A pharmacist, pharmacy intern, **[or]** pharmacy extern, or  
36 pharmacy technician may administer an influenza vaccine, a  
37 COVID-19 vaccine, or both, to a patient who is **[seven]** five years  
38 of age or older. For a patient who is under 18 years of age, a  
39 pharmacist, pharmacy intern, **[or]** pharmacy extern, or pharmacy  
40 technician shall not administer a vaccine except with the permission  
41 of the patient's parent or legal guardian. **[For a patient who is**  
42 **under 10 years of age, a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, or pharmacy**  
43 **extern shall not administer a vaccine unless pursuant to a**  
44 **prescription by an authorized prescriber. Nothing in this subsection**

**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.**

1 shall be construed to require a patient 10 years of age or older to  
2 obtain a prescription for an influenza vaccine.】

3 (3) A pharmacy intern **【or】** , pharmacy extern, or pharmacy  
4 technician, as defined by regulation of the New Jersey State Board  
5 of Pharmacy, may administer immunizations, as provided in this  
6 subsection, to patients by injection or by other delivery method,  
7 provided that the pharmacy intern **【or】** , pharmacy extern, or  
8 pharmacy technician is acting under the direct supervision of a  
9 licensed pharmacist who is pre-approved by the New Jersey State  
10 Board of Pharmacy to administer vaccines and related emergency  
11 medications, and who is in compliance with the rules jointly  
12 promulgated by the New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy and the  
13 State Board of Medical Examiners.

14 c. An immunization administered to a patient by a pharmacist,  
15 pharmacy intern, **【or】** pharmacy extern, or pharmacy technician  
16 pursuant to this subsection shall be reported by a supervising  
17 pharmacist to the New Jersey Immunization Information System  
18 established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2004, c.138 (C.26:4-134) as  
19 required pursuant to N.J.A.C.8:57-3.16, for inclusion in the patient's  
20 registry.

21 (cf: P.L.2018, c.143, s.1)

22

23 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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28 This bill expands the authority of pharmacy technicians to  
29 administer drugs and vaccines and permits pharmacists and  
30 pharmacy interns, externs, and technicians to administer COVID-19  
31 vaccines.

32 The bill's amendments to section 24 of P.L.2003, c.280  
33 (C.45:14-63):

34 1) provide that a pharmacist is required to receive appropriate  
35 training to administer a prescription medication directly to a patient,  
36 but is no longer required to be certified to administer a prescription  
37 medication directly to a patient;

38 2) permit a pharmacy technician to administer drugs to a patient  
39 18 years of age or older, provided that the pharmacy technician is  
40 appropriately educated and qualified;

41 3) permit a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, pharmacy extern, or  
42 pharmacy technician to administer a COVID-19 vaccine to a patient  
43 who is five years of age or older;

44 4) in the case of a patient who is under 18 years of age, prohibit a  
45 pharmacy technician from administering a vaccine without the  
46 permission of the patient's parent or legal guardian;

47 5) remove the following provision: "For a patient who is under  
48 10 years of age, a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, or pharmacy extern

**A1899 CONAWAY, SPEIGHT**

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- 1 shall not administer a vaccine unless pursuant to a prescription by  
2 an authorized prescriber. Nothing in this subsection shall be  
3 construed to require a patient 10 years of age or older to obtain a  
4 prescription for an influenza vaccine”;
- 5 6) permit a pharmacy technician to administer immunizations to  
6 patients by injection or by other delivery method, provided that the  
7 pharmacy technician is acting under the direct supervision of a  
8 licensed pharmacist;
- 9 7) provide that an immunization administered to a patient by a  
10 pharmacy technician is to be reported by a supervising pharmacist  
11 to the New Jersey Immunization Information System; and
- 12 8) lower the age of the patient to whom a pharmacist, pharmacy  
13 intern, pharmacy extern, or pharmacy technician may administer an  
14 influenza vaccine from seven years old to five years old.