ASSEMBLY HEALTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 2339

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 5, 2026

The Assembly Health Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2339 (1R).

This bill requires the Department of Health (DOH) to establish a State Parkinson's disease registry. Parkinson's disease is defined as a chronic and progressive neurologic disorder resulting from a deficiency of the neurotransmitter dopamine as the consequence of specific degenerative changes in the area of the brain called the basal ganglia. Parkinson's disease is also characterized by tremor at rest, slow movement, muscle rigidity, stooped posture, and unsteady or shuffling gait. Parkinsonisms are movement abnormalities and conditions that may overlap with or evolve from Parkinson's disease.

Under this bill, the DOH is to oversee the creation and management of a Statewide Parkinson's disease registry. The registry will collect data on the incidence of Parkinson's disease and Parkinsonisms within the State. Health care providers, including hospitals and other health care facilities and health care practitioners, such as physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice nurses, who diagnose or treat people diagnosed with Parkinson's disease or Parkinsonisms will be required to report each unique case of Parkinson's disease or Parkinsonisms to the registry. The DOH will determine the specific mandatory and permissive data points to be collected in the registry.

Registry information will generally be deemed confidential, but may be made available to various entities, including other Parkinson's disease registries, public health entities, and researchers, under certain circumstances. Patients will have the opportunity to opt out of inclusion in the registry, in which case, only the incidence of a Parkinson's diagnosis will be reported.

The DOH will be required to prepare an annual report concerning registry information and will be required to maintain a publicly-accessible webpage providing information about the registry and links to the DOH's annual reports.

The DOH will additionally be required to establish a Parkinson's disease registry advisory council to assist in the development of the registry, determine what data will be collected, and advise the DOH as to the implementation of the bill.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 2339 (1R) is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3693, which was amended and reported by the committee on this date.