

**SENATE, No. 3167**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**221st LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED MAY 9, 2024

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires Veterans' Memorial Homes to develop and maintain emergency preparedness and response plans.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/9/2024)**

1 AN ACT concerning emergency preparedness and response plans at  
2 Veterans' Memorial Homes in this State, and supplementing  
3 Title 38A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. In addition to any requirements that may be established  
9 by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the Division  
10 of Veterans' Healthcare Services in the Department of Military and  
11 Veterans' Affairs shall develop and maintain emergency  
12 preparedness and response plans tailored to Veterans' Memorial  
13 Homes in this State. At a minimum, such plans shall:

14 (1) identify potential crises and situations which may constitute  
15 an emergency, and the unique challenges that face Veterans'  
16 Memorial Homes in such emergencies;

17 (2) provide a list of necessary items and steps to undertake in  
18 response to such emergencies;

19 (3) establish standardized protocols for all Veterans' Memorial  
20 Homes to implement in the case of an emergency, and guidelines on  
21 how and when to simulate or train for such emergencies; and

22 (4) develop a system and set of procedures to ensure the timely  
23 dissemination of information to residents, families, and staff.

24 b. As used in this section, "emergency" means any condition  
25 which interferes with the conduct of normal operations or  
26 compromises the standard of care typically provided at a Veterans'  
27 Memorial Home.

28 c. Nothing in this section shall be construed to supersede or to  
29 conflict with any applicable federal or State laws, rules, or  
30 regulations.

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32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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37 This bill requires the Division of Veterans' Healthcare Services  
38 in the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs to develop and  
39 maintain emergency preparedness and response plans tailored to  
40 Veterans' Memorial Homes in this State. At a minimum, such plans  
41 must:

42 (1) identify potential crises and situations which may constitute  
43 an emergency, and the unique challenges that face Veterans'  
44 Memorial Homes in such emergencies;

45 (2) provide a list of necessary items and steps to undertake in  
46 response to such emergencies;

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- 1       (3) establish standardized protocols for all Veterans' Memorial
- 2 Homes to implement in the case of an emergency, and guidelines on
- 3 how and when to simulate or train for such emergencies; and
- 4       (4) develop a system and set of procedures to ensure the timely
- 5 dissemination of information to residents, families, and staff.