

ASSEMBLY, No. 5624

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 15, 2026

Sponsored by:
Assemblywoman MARGIE DONLON, M.D.
District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Requires regular testing of vended and packaged ice.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning testing of certain ice products, and
2 supplementing Title 24 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. The Department of Health shall require the owners of ice
8 vending machines and ice manufacturing plants to obtain and have
9 analyzed by an approved laboratory, once per quarter of each
10 calendar year, a sample of the ice product for microbial analysis as
11 specified in subsection b. of this act. The laboratory analysis shall
12 include testing for fecal and total coliform organisms.

13 b. Total coliforms shall not be greater 2.2 organisms per 100
14 milliliters using the Most Probable Number (MPN) method or not
15 greater than one organism per 100 milliliters using the Membrane
16 Filtration (MF) method. Fecal coliforms shall not be greater than
17 zero organisms per 100 milliliters using either the MPN or MF
18 method.

19 c. A sample that tests above the limits of fecal and total
20 coliforms listed in subsection b. of this section shall be considered a
21 positive or unsatisfactory result. A sample that tests below the limits
22 of fecal and total coliforms listed in subsection b. of this section shall
23 be considered a negative or satisfactory result. The owner of the
24 vending machine or the manufacturing plant upon the receipt of an
25 unsatisfactory result shall have the vending machine or
26 manufacturing plant cleaned, sanitized, and resampled until a sample
27 produces a satisfactory result. Thereafter, the vending machine or
28 manufacturing plant shall be sampled on a weekly basis until two
29 consecutive samples test negative for fecal and total coliforms.
30 Copies of the weekly samples shall be submitted to the department
31 upon receipt.

32 d. When three consecutive quarterly samples test negative for
33 coliform organisms, microbial sampling may be extended to a period
34 not exceeding once every six months. If a sample tests positive, the
35 owner of the vending machine or manufacturing plant shall follow
36 the procedure set forth in subsection c. of this section and revert to
37 quarterly testing thereafter. The owner may resume extended testing
38 provided under this subsection upon showing an additional three
39 consecutive negative quarterly samples.

40 e. All reports of samples analyzed pursuant to this section shall
41 be maintained for a period of not less than two years and shall be
42 made available to the department upon request.

43 f. As used in this section:

44 “Approved laboratory” means a testing facility that has been
45 approved by the Department of Health for fecal and total coliform
46 testing.

47 “Quarter” or “Quarterly” means one three-month period, for a
48 total of four periods per year, with at least 30 days between samples.

