

CHAPTER 337

AN ACT concerning the County Option Hospital Fee Program and amending P.L.2018, c.136.

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

1. Section 2 of P.L.2018, c.136 (C.30:4D-7s) is amended to read as follows:

C.30:4D-7s Definitions relative to "The County Option Hospital Fee Pilot Program Act."

2. As used in this act:

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

"Department" means the Department of Human Services.

"Fee" means the local healthcare-related fee authorized pursuant to this act.

"Hospital" means a hospital that is licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) and is located within the borders of a participating county.

"Medicaid program" means the "New Jersey Medical Assistance and Health Services Program" established pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.).

"Participating county" means, notwithstanding the provisions of any other law or regulation to the contrary, a county that chooses to participate in the program, has a population greater than 250,000, according to the federal decennial census immediately preceding the effective date of P.L.2018, c.136 (C.30:4D-7r et seq.), and contains a municipality which: (1) is classified, pursuant to N.J.S.40A:6-4, as a First or Second Class municipality, or a Fourth Class municipality whose population exceeds 20,000, and (2) has a Municipal Revitalization Index Distress score, as last calculated by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs prior to the effective date of P.L.2018, c.136 (C.30:4D-7r et seq.), that exceeds 60; or, based on the 2019 ACS 5 Year Survey Data, a county that chooses to participate in the program and contains a municipality with a population greater than 30,000 whose 2020 Municipal Revitalization Index Distress score is greater than or equal to 33 (1) excluding counties with a municipality with a population greater than 125,000, (2) excluding counties with a population less than 150,000, and (3) excluding counties with a median household income greater than \$110,000.

"Program" means "The County Option Hospital Fee Program" established pursuant to this act.

"Proposed fee and expenditure report" means a written report by a participating county that describes how the fee will be imposed in the participating county; how the funds collected from the fee will be used by the participating county, including the amount and services the participating county plans to provide with the funds; and how the plan satisfies paragraph (1) of subsection b. of section 3 of this act.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 16, 2024.