

ASSEMBLY, No. 1326

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblyman JAMEL C. HOLLEY

District 20 (Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywomen Murphy, McKnight and Assemblyman Danielsen

SYNOPSIS

Creates public awareness campaign concerning risks associated with unsecured, Internet-connected baby monitors.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** creating a public awareness campaign concerning baby
2 monitors with Internet connectivity.

3

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

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7 1. a. The Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the
8 Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the
9 Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families, shall
10 establish a public awareness campaign to provide information to the
11 general public concerning baby monitors that broadcast audio or
12 video through an Internet connection and:

13 (1) the risks associated with unsecured Internet-connected baby
14 monitors; and

15 (2) baby monitor security features and other measures that may
16 be taken by parents or guardians to prevent unauthorized users from
17 hearing or viewing activity through monitors.

18 b. The director shall create printed and electronic educational
19 materials concerning baby monitors that broadcast audio or video
20 through an Internet connection. The director shall disseminate
21 those materials: (1) to child care centers licensed pursuant to
22 P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.); (2) on the premises of, or
23 through mail or electronic communications by, any office that is
24 operated, administered, or used to provide services to the general
25 public by the Department of Children and Families; (3) in
26 collaboration with, and with the assistance of, other State, county,
27 and municipal governmental entities; and (4) by any other means as
28 the director may determine.

29 c. The Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs shall
30 report to the Governor and to the Legislature, pursuant to section 2
31 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than 24 months after the
32 effective date of this act, on the activities and accomplishments of
33 the public awareness campaign.

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35 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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40 This bill establishes a public awareness campaign to provide
41 information to the general public about baby monitors that
42 broadcast audio or video through an Internet connection.

43 Under the bill, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs
44 in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with
45 the Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families, is
46 required to create the public awareness campaign to inform
47 consumers about (1) the risks associated with unsecured Internet-
48 connected baby monitors, and (2) security features and other

1 measures that may be taken by parents or guardians to prevent
2 unauthorized users from hearing or viewing activity through
3 monitors. The division is required to create printed and electronic
4 educational materials and disseminate them: to licensed child care
5 centers in the State; on the premises of, or through mail or
6 electronic communications by, any Department of Children and
7 Families office that provides services to the general public; in
8 collaboration with other State, county, and municipal governmental
9 entities; and by any other means the director determines. The bill
10 also requires the division to report to the Governor and the
11 Legislature concerning the activities and accomplishments of the
12 public awareness campaign within two years of the bill's effective
13 date.

14 Baby monitors that broadcast live audio and video feeds over the
15 Internet can be viewed on a computer, cellular telephone, tablet, or
16 other Internet-connected device. The possibility of an unknown
17 individual watching a person's baby is frightening for many parents
18 who have come to rely on these devices. Recent news articles
19 highlight the vulnerabilities of Internet-connected baby monitors
20 that lack basic security features, making them prone to even simple
21 hacking attempts. In addition, a hacked camera could provide
22 access to other Wi-Fi-enabled devices in a person's home, such as a
23 personal computer or security system.