

ASSEMBLY, No. 2434

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman RALPH R. CAPUTO

District 28 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires SHBP and SEHBP to provide coverage for health care benefits provided by physicians who terminate contract with federal Medicare program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/3/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning health care benefits coverage under the State
2 Health Benefits Program and the School Employees' Health
3 Benefits Program and supplementing P.L.1961, c.79 (C.52:14-
4 17.25 et seq.).

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

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9 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,
10 the State Health Benefits Commission and the School Employees'
11 Health Benefits Commission shall ensure that every contract
12 purchased by the commission provides that if a physician providing
13 services for a retired program enrollee terminates participation as a
14 physician in the federal Medicare program, the State Health
15 Benefits Program or the School Employees' Health Benefits
16 Program, as appropriate, shall provide coverage for health care
17 benefits to each such retiree whose physician terminated
18 participation in the federal Medicare program for expenses incurred
19 in continuing treatment and care of that enrollee by that physician.
20 The continuing treatment by a particular physician as provided for
21 in this section shall be at the option of the covered person.

22 The State Health Benefits Program or the School Employees'
23 Health Benefits Program shall require that health care benefits or
24 services, as appropriate, shall be provided for the medically
25 necessary treatment of conditions to the same extent as such
26 benefits or services were provided while the physician was
27 participating in the federal Medicare program. Reimbursement for
28 the health care services shall be pursuant to the same fee schedule
29 used to reimburse for the services when the physician was
30 participating in the federal Medicare program.

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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 State Health Benefits Program and the
38 School Employees' Health Benefits Program to pay for medically
39 necessary health care benefits coverage for a retired public
40 employee when the retiree's physician no longer participates in the
41 federal Medicare program. Coverage will be provided to the same
42 extent as such benefits or services were provided while the
43 physician was participating in the federal Medicare program. The
44 bill requires that reimbursement for the health care services will be
45 pursuant to the same fee schedule used to reimburse for the services
46 when the physician was participating in the federal Medicare
47 program. The continuing treatment by a particular physician as
48 provided for in this section shall be at the option of the covered
49 person.