

# ASSEMBLY, No. 3843

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman JOHN F. MCKEON**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**Assemblyman JON M. BRAMNICK**

**District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)**

**Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA**

**District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Senator NELLIE POU**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Senator CHRISTOPHER "KIP" BATEMAN**

**District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman DiMaso, Assemblymen Conaway, Chiaravalloti, Assemblywomen Jasey, Timberlake, Reynolds-Jackson, McKnight, Chaparro Downey, Swain, Assemblymen Zwicker, Benson, Assemblywoman Quijano, Assemblymen Freiman, Giblin, Assemblywoman Carter, Assemblyman Mejia, Assemblywoman Jimenez, Senators Stack, Cruz-Perez, Ruiz, Addiego, Greenstein, T.Kean, Brown, Holzapfel, O'Scanlon, Thompson and Singer**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires health insurance and Medicaid coverage for testing of coronavirus disease 2019 and for telemedicine and telehealth during coronavirus disease 2019 state of emergency.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/19/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning health insurance and Medicaid coverage and  
2 coronavirus disease 2019 and supplementing P.L.1968, c.413  
3 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.) and P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-1 et seq.).  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:  
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8 1. a. During the Public Health Emergency and State of  
9 Emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order 103 of  
10 2020, the State Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare programs shall  
11 provide coverage and payment for expenses incurred in:

12 (1) the testing for coronavirus disease 2019, provided that a  
13 licensed medical practitioner has issued a medical order for that  
14 testing; and

15 (2) the delivery of health care services through telemedicine or  
16 telehealth in accordance with the provisions of P.L.2017, c.117  
17 (C.45:1-61 et al.).

18 b. The coverage shall be provided to the same extent as for any  
19 other health care services, except that no cost-sharing shall be  
20 imposed on the coverage provided pursuant to this section.

21 c. The Commissioner of Human Services shall apply for such  
22 State plan amendments or waivers as may be necessary to  
23 implement the provisions of this act and to secure federal financial  
24 participation for State Medicaid expenditures under the federal  
25 Medicaid program.  
26

27 2. a. During the Public Health Emergency and State of  
28 Emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order 103 of  
29 2020, a carrier that offers a health benefits plan in this State shall  
30 provide coverage and payment for expenses incurred in:

31 (1) the testing of coronavirus disease 2019, provided that a  
32 health care professional in accordance with the provisions of  
33 P.L.2017, c.117 (C.45:1-61 et al.) has issued a medical order for the  
34 testing; and

35 (2) any health care services delivered to a covered person  
36 through telemedicine or telehealth in accordance with the  
37 provisions of P.L.2017, c.117 (C.45:1-61 et al.).

38 b. The coverage shall be provided to the same extent as for any  
39 other health care services under the health benefits plan, except that  
40 no cost-sharing shall be imposed on the coverage provided pursuant  
41 to this section.

42 c. As used in this section, "carrier," means an insurance  
43 company, health service corporation, hospital service corporation,  
44 medical service corporation, or health maintenance organization  
45 authorized to issue health benefits plans in this State, and shall  
46 include the State Health Benefits Program and the School  
47 Employees' Health Benefits Program.

1       3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all  
2 health benefits plans currently in effect in the State, or that are  
3 delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or approved for  
4 issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of Banking  
5 and Insurance, on or after the effective date of this act.

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STATEMENT

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10       This bill requires health insurance carriers (health, hospital and  
11 medical service corporations, health maintenance organizations and  
12 insurance companies), as well as the State and School Employees'  
13 Health Benefits Programs and the State Medicaid program, to  
14 provide coverage for expenses incurred in:

15       (1) the testing for coronavirus disease 2019, provided that a  
16 licensed medical practitioner has issued a medical order for that  
17 testing; and

18       (2) the delivery of health care services through telemedicine or  
19 telehealth in accordance with the provisions of P.L.2017, c.117  
20 (C.45:1-61 et al.).

21       The requirements of the bill remain in effect during the Public  
22 Health Emergency and State of Emergency declared by the  
23 Governor in Executive Order 103 of 2020.

24       The bill requires the coverage to be provided to the same extent  
25 as for any other services under the health benefits plan, except that  
26 no cost-sharing may be imposed on the coverage provided pursuant  
27 to the bill.

28       The bill takes effect immediately and applies to all health benefit  
29 plans currently in effect in the State, or that are delivered, issued,  
30 executed or renewed in this State, or approved for issuance or  
31 renewal in this State by the Commissioner of Banking and  
32 Insurance, on or after the effective date of the bill.