

ASSEMBLY, No. 4239

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 8, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman AURA K. DUNN

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Allows in-person visitation for immediate family members and legal guardians of residents of community-based residential programs and group homes during COVID-19 pandemic.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/22/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning certain community-based residential programs
2 and group homes and supplementing Title 30 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

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

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8 1. As used in this act:

9 “Community-based residential program” means a developmental
10 center, supervised apartment, community care residence, nursing
11 home or any other residential setting, which is licensed and
12 regulated by the Department of Human Services.

13 “Group home” means a living arrangement that is operated in a
14 residence or residences leased or owned by an individual licensed
15 by the Department of Human Services; which provides the
16 opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities to live
17 together in a home, sharing in chores and the overall management
18 of the residence; and in which staff provides supervision, training,
19 or assistance in a variety of forms and intensity as required to assist
20 the individuals as they move toward independence.

21 “Resident” means any child or adult whose primary residence is
22 a community-based residential program or group home that is
23 operated by, or under contract with, the Department of Human
24 Services.

25
26 2. a. During the public health emergency declared pursuant to
27 P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.) in response to the coronavirus
28 disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Department of Human Services shall
29 require the operator of a community-based residential program or
30 group home to allow in-person visitation between a resident of the
31 community-based residential program or group home and the
32 resident’s immediate family members and legal guardian.

33 b. Each visitor of a resident of a community-based residential
34 program or group home pursuant to subsection a. of this section
35 shall be subject to all restrictions and limitations imposed by the
36 department in response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-
37 19), which may , but not limited to requiring each visitor to:

38 (1) undergo a complete screening for exposure to, or symptoms
39 of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19);

40 (2) practice social distancing, including maintaining a six foot
41 distance between the visitor and all residents and staff while in, or
42 on the premises of, the community-based residential program or
43 group home; and

44 (3) wear a non-medical facial covering while in, or on the
45 premises of, the community-based residential program or group
46 home.

