

ASSEMBLY, No. 4447

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 23, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Requires health insurers to provide coverage for screening and therapeutic treatment of syphilis.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** requiring health insurance benefits for expenses incurred
2 requiring health insurance benefits for expenses incurred the for
3 screening and treatment of syphilis and supplementing
4 P.L.1938, c.366 (C.17:48-1 et seq.), P.L.1940, c.74 (C.17:48A-1
5 et seq.), P.L.1985, c.236 (C.17:48E-1 et seq.), chapters 26 and 27
6 of Title 17B of the New Jersey Statutes, P.L.1992, c.161
7 (C.17B:27A-2 et seq.), P.L.1992, c.162 (C.17B:27A-17 et seq.,
8 P.L.1973, c.337 (C.26:2J-1 et seq.), P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-
9 17.25 et. seq.), and, P.L.2007, c.103 (52:14-17.46.1 et seq.).

10

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

13

14 1. Every hospital service corporation contract that provides
15 hospital or medical expense benefits and is delivered, issued,
16 executed or renewed in this State pursuant to P.L.1938, c.366
17 (C.17:48-1 et seq.), or approved for issuance or renewal in this State
18 by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the
19 effective date of this act, shall provide benefits to a covered person
20 for expenses incurred in conducting syphilis screening and in the
21 therapeutic treatment of syphilis.

22 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
23 medical condition under the contract.

24 The provisions of this section shall apply to all hospital service
25 corporation contracts in which the hospital service corporation has
26 reserved the right to change the premium.

27

28 2. Every medical service corporation contract that provides
29 hospital or medical expense benefits and is delivered, issued, executed
30 or renewed in this State pursuant to P.L.1940, c.74 (C.17:48A-1 et
31 seq.), or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the
32 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date
33 of this act, shall provide benefits to a covered person for expenses
34 incurred in conducting syphilis screening and in the therapeutic
35 treatment of syphilis.

36 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
37 medical condition under the contract.

38 The provisions of this section shall apply to all medical service
39 corporation contracts in which the medical service corporation has
40 reserved the right to change the premium.

41

42 3. Every health service corporation contract that provides hospital
43 or medical expense benefits and is delivered, issued, executed or
44 renewed in this State pursuant to P.L.1985, c.236 (C.17:48E-1 et seq.),
45 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner
46 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act, shall

1 provide benefits to a covered person for expenses incurred in
2 conducting syphilis screening and in the therapeutic treatment of
3 syphilis.

4 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
5 medical condition under the contract.

6 The provisions of this section shall apply to all health service
7 corporation contracts in which the health service corporation has
8 reserved the right to change the premium.

9
10 4. Every individual policy that provides hospital or medical
11 expense benefits and is delivered, issued, executed or renewed in
12 this State pursuant to N.J.S.17B:26-1 et seq., or approved for
13 issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of Banking
14 and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act, shall provide
15 benefits to a covered person for expenses incurred in conducting
16 syphilis screening and in the therapeutic treatment of syphilis.

17 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
18 medical condition under the policy.

19 The provisions of this section shall apply to all health insurance
20 policies in which the insurer has reserved the right to change the
21 premium.

22
23 5. Every group policy that provides hospital or medical
24 expense benefits and is delivered, issued, executed or renewed in
25 this State pursuant to N.J.S.17B:27-26 et seq., or approved for
26 issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of Banking
27 and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act, shall provide
28 benefits to a covered person for expenses incurred in conducting
29 syphilis screening and in the therapeutic treatment of syphilis.

30 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
31 medical condition under the policy.

32 The provisions of this section shall apply to all health insurance
33 policies in which the insurer has reserved the right to change the
34 premium.

35
36 6. Every individual health benefits plan that provides hospital
37 or medical expense benefits and is delivered, issued, executed or
38 renewed in this State pursuant to P.L.1992, c.161 (C.17B:27A-2 et
39 seq.), or approved for issuance or renewal in this State on or after
40 the effective date of this act, shall provide benefits to a covered
41 person for expenses incurred in conducting syphilis screening and
42 in the therapeutic treatment of syphilis.

43 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
44 medical condition under the health benefits plan.

45 The provisions of this section shall apply to all health benefit
46 plans in which the carrier has reserved the right to change the
47 premium.

1 7. Every small employer health benefits plan that provides
2 hospital or medical expense benefits and is delivered, issued,
3 executed or renewed in this State pursuant to P.L.1992, c.162
4 (C.17B:27A-17 et seq.), or approved for issuance or renewal in this
5 State on or after the effective date of this act, shall provide benefits
6 to a covered person for expenses incurred in conducting syphilis
7 screening and in the therapeutic treatment of syphilis.

8 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
9 medical condition under the health benefits plan.

10 The provisions of this section shall apply to all health benefit
11 plans in which the carrier has reserved the right to change the
12 premium.

13
14 8. Every enrollee agreement that provides hospital or medical
15 expense benefits and is delivered, issued, executed or renewed in
16 this State pursuant to P.L.1973, c.337 (C.26:2J-1 et seq.), or
17 approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner
18 of Health on or after the effective date of this act, shall provide
19 health care services to a covered enrollee for expenses incurred in
20 conducting syphilis screening and in the therapeutic treatment of
21 syphilis.

22 The health care services shall be provided to the same extent as
23 for any other medical condition under the enrollee agreement.

24 The provisions of this section shall apply to all enrollee
25 agreements in which the health maintenance organization has
26 reserved the right to change the schedule of charges.

27
28 9. The State Health Benefits Commission shall ensure that
29 every contract purchased by the commission on or after the
30 effective date of this act that provides hospital and medical expense
31 benefits shall provide coverage for expenses incurred in conducting
32 syphilis screening and in the therapeutic treatment of syphilis.

33 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
34 medical condition under the contract.

35
36 10. The School Employees' Health Benefits Commission shall
37 ensure that every contract purchased by the commission on or after
38 the effective date of this act that provides hospital and medical
39 expense benefits shall provide coverage for expenses incurred in
40 conducting syphilis screening and in the therapeutic treatment of
41 syphilis.

42 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
43 medical condition under the contract.

44
45 11. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after enactment.

STATEMENT

3 This bill requires hospital, medical and health service
4 corporations, individual, small employer and large group
5 commercial insurers, health maintenance organizations, the State
6 Health Benefits Commission, and the School Employee Health
7 Benefits Commission to provide coverage for the screening and
8 therapeutic treatment of syphilis. The coverage required under the
9 bill is to be provided to the same extent as for any other medical
10 condition covered under the health benefits plan.