

ASSEMBLY, No. 5163

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Requires county or municipal police department or force provide medication refrigeration service to residents during power outage.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning county and municipal police departments and
2 supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. A county or municipal police department or force shall
8 offer a medication refrigeration service to its residents during power
9 outages.

10 b. The Attorney General, in consultation with the
11 Commissioner of Health, shall promulgate guidelines to effectuate
12 the provisions of this section. The guidelines shall include, but not
13 be limited to:

14 (1) a list of equipment needed by a county or municipal police
15 department or force to offer a medication refrigeration service;

16 (2) security protocols and best practices for the appropriate and
17 safe refrigerated storage of medication;

18 (3) procedures for secure drop-off and pick-up of medication;

19 (4) any waiver of liability that the county or municipal police
20 department or force would need to obtain from its residents; and

21 (5) methods to determine the projected need of those residents
22 served by that municipal police department or force and the
23 subsequent storage capacity necessary to serve those residents.

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25 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month
26 next following enactment, but the Attorney General and the
27 Commissioner of Health may take such anticipatory administrative
28 action in advance as shall be necessary for the implementation of
29 this act.

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STATEMENT

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34 This bill requires a county or municipal police department or
35 force to offer a medication refrigeration service to its residents
36 during power outages.

37 Under the bill, the Attorney General, in consultation with the
38 Commissioner of Health, is required to promulgate guidelines to
39 effectuate the provisions of this bill. The guidelines are to include,
40 but not be limited to:

41 • a list of equipment needed by a county or municipal police
42 department or force to offer a medication refrigeration
43 service;

44 • security protocols and best practices for the appropriate and
45 safe refrigerated storage of medication;

46 • methods of determining the procedures for secure drop-off
47 and pick-up of medication;

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- 1 • any waiver of liability that the county or municipal police
2 department or force would need to obtain from its residents;
3 and
- 4 • methods of determining the projected need of those residents
5 served by that municipal police department or force and the
6 subsequent storage capacity necessary to serve those
7 residents.

8 The sponsor notes that many medications require refrigeration.
9 In the event of a power outage, residents prescribed these types of
10 medications frequently have to bear the cost of replacement or risk
11 going without. The sponsor hopes that this bill will provide
12 assistance to those residents who face the prospect of losing their
13 medication anytime there is a power outage.