

SENATE, No. 254

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires Commissioner of Human Services to apply for State plan amendment extending NJ FamilyCare eligibility to children of State employees eligible for State health benefits coverage.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/27/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning the NJ FamilyCare Program and supplementing
2 Chapter 4J of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the
8 Commissioner of Human Services shall apply for a State plan
9 amendment to secure federal financial participation for certain NJ
10 FamilyCare expenditures under the State Children's Health
11 Insurance Program pursuant to 42 U.S.C.s.1397aa et seq.. The State
12 plan amendment shall allow the State to extend eligibility for the NJ
13 FamilyCare program to include the children of State employees who
14 are eligible for health benefits coverage under a State health
15 benefits plan and who meet the eligibility requirements established
16 pursuant to regulations adopted by the commissioner. This State
17 plan amendment shall be implemented to the extent that it is in
18 compliance with section 2110 (b) (5) of the Social Security Act (42
19 U.S.C.s.1397jj).

20
21 2. The Commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations,
22 pursuant to the provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
23 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to effectuate the purposes of
24 this act.

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26 3. This act shall take effect immediately.
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29 STATEMENT
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31 This bill requires the Commissioner of Human Services to apply
32 for a State plan amendment to secure federal financial participation
33 for certain NJ FamilyCare expenditures under the State Children's
34 Health Insurance Program pursuant to 42 U.S.C.s.1397aa et seq.

35 Specifically, the State plan amendment would allow the State to
36 extend eligibility for the NJ FamilyCare program to include the
37 children of State employees who are eligible for health benefits
38 coverage under a State health benefits plan and who meet the
39 eligibility requirements established pursuant to regulations adopted
40 by the commissioner. The State plan amendment would be
41 implemented in compliance with section 2110 (b) (5) of the Social
42 Security Act (42 U.S.C.s.1397jj).

43 Prior to the enactment of the federal "Patient Protection and
44 Affordable Care Act," Pub.L.111-148, the Social Security Act
45 excluded the children of State employees eligible for health benefits
46 coverage under a State health benefits plan from eligibility for
47 health care coverage under NJ FamilyCare, even if the employees'

1 health benefits plan's out-of-pocket costs posed a financial hardship
2 and their income levels met NJ FamilyCare eligibility requirements.
3 This bill would allow the State to extend eligibility for NJ
4 FamilyCare to include the children of State employees who are
5 eligible for health benefits coverage under a State health benefits
6 plan but cannot afford comprehensive coverage options for their
7 families.