

SENATE, No. 273

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Requires reporting of opioid deaths.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning opioid deaths and supplementing Title 26 of the
2 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 coroner, medical examiner, or health care professional
8 who examines an individual whose death was caused by opioid use
9 shall report the death and the type of opioid that was the cause of
10 death, if that information is ascertainable, to the Department of
11 Health, in a manner determined by the Commissioner of Health.

12 As used in this section:

13 “Department” means the Department of Health.

14 “Health care professional” means an individual licensed by this
15 State, pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised Statutes, to administer
16 health care in the ordinary course of business or practice of a
17 profession.

18 b. The Commissioner of Health shall publish on the
19 department’s Internet website the number of deaths caused by
20 opioids and the type of opioid that was the cause of death, if that
21 information is ascertainable, according to reports received by the
22 department pursuant to subsection a. of this section.

23

24 2. The Commissioner of Health shall, pursuant to the
25 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
26 seq.), adopt rules or regulations as are necessary to effectuate the
27 provisions of this act.

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29 3. This act shall take effect 180 days after enactment.

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STATEMENT

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34 This bill requires a coroner, medical examiner, or health care
35 professional who examines an individual whose death was caused by
36 opioid use to report the death and the type of opioid that was the cause
37 of death, if that information is ascertainable, to the Department of
38 Health (DOH) in a manner determined by the Commissioner of
39 Health.

40 The DOH will be required to publish, on its Internet website, the
41 number of deaths caused by opioids and the type of opioid that was the
42 cause of death, if that information is ascertainable, according to reports
43 received by the DOH pursuant to the bill.