

SENATE, No. 1266

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires DHS to develop or purchase electronic health record system for use by certain agencies providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning electronic health record systems and
2 supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

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

6
7 1. a. The Commissioner of Human Services, or the
8 commissioner's designee, shall develop or purchase, and make
9 available free of charge, an electronic health record system to each
10 community provider agency providing services or supports to
11 individuals with developmental disabilities eligible for services or
12 supports from the Division of Developmental Disabilities in the
13 Department of Human Services.

14 b. The system provided for in subsection a. of this section
15 shall, at a minimum, provide a uniform system for each community
16 provider agency to:

17 (1) record information about individuals with developmental
18 disabilities served by the provider agency, including, but not limited
19 to, the care and services provided, the dates of service or
20 attendance, as appropriate, and the outcomes achieved as a result of
21 the care and services provided;

22 (2) report to the Division of Developmental Disabilities
23 information provided for in paragraph (1) of this subsection; and

24 (3) request payment for care and services provided.

25 c. The system shall be used in connection with any audit
26 conducted of a community provider agency providing services or
27 supports to individuals with developmental disabilities eligible for
28 services or supports from the Division of Developmental
29 Disabilities, and shall be completed and implemented on or before
30 January 1, 2021.

31

32 2. a. In determining the rate of payment for each community
33 provider agency providing services or supports to individuals with
34 developmental disabilities under a fee-for-service arrangement with
35 the Division of Developmental Disabilities, the division shall take
36 into account any funds expended by a community provider agency,
37 prior to the effective date of this act, to develop or purchase an
38 electronic health record system, and include those expended funds
39 as an eligible cost of the provider.

40 b. Each community provider agency that has expended funds
41 pursuant to subsection a. of this section, shall document such
42 expenditures and provide the documentation to the Division of
43 Developmental Disabilities to enable the division to include these
44 expenditures as an eligible cost of the provider.

45

46 3. Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.1968, c.410
47 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to the contrary, the Commissioner of Human
48 Services may adopt, immediately upon filing with the Office of

1 Administrative Law, such regulations as the commissioner deems
2 necessary to implement the provisions of this act, which regulations
3 shall be effective for a period not to exceed six months and may,
4 thereafter, be amended, adopted or readopted by the commissioner
5 in accordance with the requirements of P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-
6 1 et seq.).

7
8 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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11 STATEMENT

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13 This bill requires the Commissioner of Human Services, or the
14 commissioner's designee, to develop or purchase, and make
15 available free of charge, an electronic health record system to each
16 community provider agency providing services or supports to
17 individuals with developmental disabilities eligible for services or
18 supports from the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) in
19 the Department of Human Services.

20 Under the provisions of the bill, the system would, at a
21 minimum, provide a uniform system for each community provider
22 agency to record information about individuals with developmental
23 disabilities served by the provider agency, including, but not limited
24 to, the care and services provided, the dates of service or
25 attendance, as appropriate, and the outcomes achieved as a result of
26 the care and services provided.

27 The system would also enable the community provider agencies
28 to report the above information to DDD and request payment for the
29 care and services provided. Additionally, the system would be used
30 in connection with audits conducted of the agencies. The system is
31 to be completed and implemented on or before January 1, 2021.

32 With regard to funds expended by a community provider agency,
33 prior to the effective date of the bill, to develop or purchase an
34 electronic health record system, the bill provides that in determining
35 the rate of payment for the provider under a fee-for-service
36 arrangement with DDD, any funds expended prior to the effective
37 date of the bill are to be taken into account and included as an
38 eligible cost of the provider. These community provider agencies
39 are to document the expenditures and provide documentation to
40 DDD to enable these expenditures to be included as an eligible cost
41 of the provider.