

SENATE, No. 1844

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI
District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Requires hospitals to include warning in patient discharge papers concerning risks of addiction and overdose associated with opioid medications.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S1844 SCUTARI

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1 **AN ACT** concerning hospitals and supplementing Title 26 of the
2 Revised Statutes.

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

1. Each general acute care hospital licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) shall include with patient discharge papers, provided that the patient is discharged from the hospital with a prescription for an opioid drug, information concerning the risks of addiction, overdose, and death associated with the use of opioid medications. The informational materials shall include contact information for substance use disorder treatment and recovery resources for those seeking treatment for a substance use disorder involving opioids. The Department of Health shall develop informational materials that hospitals may use for the purposes of complying with the requirements of this section.

2. This act shall take effect 60 days after the date of enactment, except that the Commissioner of Health may take any administrative action in advance thereof as shall be necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

STATEMENT

27 This bill requires all general acute care hospitals to include with
28 discharge papers for patients discharged from the hospital with a
29 prescription for an opioid drug information concerning the risks of
30 addiction, overdose, and death associated with the use of opioid
31 medications. The information is to include contact information for
32 substance use disorder treatment and recovery resources. The
33 Department of Health will be required to develop informational
34 materials that may be used by hospitals for the purpose of
35 complying with the requirements of the bill. The bill will take
36 effect 60 days after the date of enactment, but the Commissioner of
37 Health will be authorized to take any advance administrative action
38 as may be necessary to implement the provisions of the bill.