

SENATE, No. 2030

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator STEVEN V. OROHO

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

SYNOPSIS

Requires notification for exhaustion of workers' compensation and temporary disability benefits.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning exhaustion of workers' compensation and
2 temporary disability benefits and supplementing R.S.34:15-1 et
3 seq. and P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et al.).

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

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8 1. The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development,
9 or the appropriate entity administering workers' compensation
10 benefits if the benefits are not administered by the State, shall give
11 written notification to any individual receiving workers'
12 compensation benefits pursuant to R.S.34:15-1 et seq., of the date
13 of the final exhaustion of all workers' compensation benefits for the
14 individual, not less than four weeks prior to that date. The written
15 notification shall include a referral for services from the
16 Department of Human Services and any other appropriate State
17 agency to counsel and assist the individual to obtain any resources
18 which may be available for the individual and dependents of the
19 individual, including assistance regarding housing, child care, food,
20 mental health, addiction services, and health care coverage. The
21 notification shall be distributed in a manner deemed by the
22 commissioner to be the most practicable and cost effective, but that
23 will ensure timely personal notification of each person.

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25 2. The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development,
26 or the appropriate entity administering temporary disability benefits
27 if the benefits are not administered by the State, shall give written
28 notification to any individual receiving temporary disability
29 benefits pursuant to the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law,"
30 P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et al.), of the date of the final
31 exhaustion of all temporary disability benefits for the individual,
32 not less than four weeks prior to that date. The written notification
33 shall include a referral for services from the Department of Human
34 Services and any other appropriate State agency to counsel and
35 assist the individual to obtain any resources which may be available
36 for the individual and dependents of the individual, including
37 assistance regarding housing, child care, food, mental health,
38 addiction services, and health care coverage. The notification shall
39 be distributed in a manner deemed by the commissioner to be the
40 most practicable and cost effective, but that will ensure timely
41 personal notification of each person.

42
43 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
44 next following enactment, except that the Commissioner of Labor
45 and Workforce Development may take any anticipatory
46 administrative action in advance as shall be necessary for the
47 implementation of this act.

STATEMENT

This bill requires the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, or the appropriate entity administering benefits, to provide written notification to any individual receiving workers' compensation benefits of the date of the final exhaustion of all workers' compensation benefits for the individual, at least four weeks prior to that date.

Additionally, this bill requires the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, or the appropriate entity administering benefits, to provide written notification to any individual receiving temporary disability benefits pursuant to the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et al.), of the date of the final exhaustion of all temporary disability benefits for the individual, at least four weeks prior to that date.

The written notification will include a referral for services from the Department of Human Services and any other appropriate State agency to counsel and assist the individual to obtain any resources which may be available for the individual and dependents of the individual, including assistance regarding housing, child care, food, mental health, addiction services, and health care coverage.

Under current law, the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development is required to send a comparable notification for exhaustion of unemployment benefits, and this bill, if enacted, will require the commissioner to send out notification for the exhaustion of workers' compensation and temporary disability benefits as well.