

SENATE, No. 3355

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 12, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator DECLAN J. O'SCANLON, JR.

District 13 (Monmouth)

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Permits certified medical assistants to administer vaccines under certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/9/2021)

1 **AN ACT** concerning certified medical assistants and vaccines and
2 supplementing Title 26 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. As used in this section:

8 "Advanced practice nurse" means a person who holds a
9 certification in accordance with section 8 or 9 of P.L.1991, c.377
10 (C.45:11-47 or C.45:11-48).

11 "Certified medical assistant" means a person who is a graduate of
12 a post-secondary medical assisting educational program accredited
13 by the Commission on Allied Health Education and Accreditation,
14 or its successor, the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education
15 Schools, or its successor, or any accrediting agency recognized by
16 the U.S. Department of Education, which educational program
17 includes, at a minimum, 330 clock hours of instruction, and
18 encompasses training in the administration of intramuscular and
19 subcutaneous injections, as well as instruction and demonstration
20 in: pertinent anatomy and physiology appropriate to injection
21 procedures; choice of equipment; proper technique, including sterile
22 technique; hazards and complications; and emergency procedures;
23 and who maintains current certification or registration, as
24 appropriate, from the Certifying Board of the American Association
25 of Medical Assistants, the National Center for Competency Testing,
26 the National Healthcareer Association, the American Medical
27 Certification Association, the National Association for Health
28 Professionals, the National Certification Medical Association, the
29 American Medical Technologists, or any other recognized
30 certifying body approved by the State Board of Medical Examiners.

31 "Physician" means a physician licensed pursuant to Title 45 of
32 the Revised Statutes.

33 "Physician assistant" means a health professional who meets the
34 qualifications under P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.) and
35 holds a current, valid license issued pursuant to section 4 of
36 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.13).

37 b. During an outbreak of a communicable disease occurring
38 among the general public in any area of the State or during a
39 declared public health emergency, all certified medical assistants in
40 the State shall be authorized to administer any available vaccine,
41 under the supervision of an advanced practice nurse, a physician, a
42 physician assistant, or a registered nurse, that the Advisory
43 Committee on Immunization Practices in the federal Centers for
44 Disease Control and Prevention recommends to prevent against that
45 communicable disease, which vaccine may be administered by a
46 certified medical assistant to any patient, regardless of the patient's
47 age, unless age restrictions have been recommended by the
48 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. A certified

1 medical assistant shall comply with any other restrictions or
2 guidance concerning the vaccine as have been issued by the
3 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices or the Department
4 of Health. A vaccine administered pursuant to this section may be
5 administered pursuant to an individual prescription for the vaccine,
6 a standing order for the vaccine issued by an authorized prescriber,
7 or an immunization program or other program sponsored by an
8 authorized governmental agency that is not patient specific.

9
10 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

11
12
13 STATEMENT

14
15 This bill permits certified medical assistants to administer
16 vaccines under certain circumstances.

17 Under the bill, during an outbreak of a communicable disease
18 occurring among the general public in any area of the State or
19 during a declared public health emergency, all certified medical
20 assistants in the State are to be authorized to administer any
21 available vaccine, under the supervision of an advanced practice
22 nurse, a physician, a physician assistant, or a registered nurse, that
23 the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices in the federal
24 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends to prevent
25 against that communicable disease, which vaccine may be
26 administered by a certified medical assistant to any patient,
27 regardless of the patient's age, unless age restrictions have been
28 recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization
29 Practices. A certified medical assistant is to comply with any other
30 restrictions or guidance concerning the vaccine as have been issued
31 by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices or the
32 Department of Health. A vaccine administered pursuant to the
33 bill's provisions may be administered pursuant to an individual
34 prescription for the vaccine, a standing order for the vaccine issued
35 by an authorized prescriber, or an immunization program or other
36 program sponsored by an authorized governmental agency that is
37 not patient specific.