

# NEW JERSEY ★ LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR ★

Office of LEGISLATIVE SERVICES • OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

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## **Vol. L No. 6 Internet Update II**

Prepared: February 6, 2026

\*Denotes Changes

## **CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

*Check Internet site or call this office for updated schedule*

## **222<sup>nd</sup> Legislature**

*First Annual Session*

### **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

#### **SENATE QUORUM Senate Chambers**

10:00 AM: Group (2) Committees scheduled to meet

#### **Senate Budget and Appropriations Meeting**

**Chair: Sen. Sarlo, Paul A.**

The Committee will not meet.

#### **Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Meeting**

**10:00 AM Committee Room 1, 1st Floor,**

**State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

**Chair: Sen. Vitale, Joseph F.**

S850 [Singer, Robert W.], Public-Private Alliance to Retain Talent & Expand Regional Health Prog;\$5M  
S1772 [Singleton, Troy/Beach, James+1], Emergency Medical Services, Statewide-requires DOH to develop  
S2959 [Mukherji, Raj/Beach, James], MyNJHelps web-based platform-reformat as centralized online resource  
S2977 [Vitale, Joseph F./McKnight, Angela V.+3], Children's meals served in restaurants-required to meet nutritional standards  
S2996 [Vitale, Joseph F./Singleton, Troy+24], Nurses, advanced practice-eliminates certain practice restrictions for  
S3007 [Vitale, Joseph F.], Emergency medical responders & medical technicians-provide for licensure  
S3013 [Vitale, Joseph F./Gopal, Vin+4], Behavioral health crisis system of care-estab telecommunication fee to support  
S3017 [Vitale, Joseph F./Singleton, Troy+3], Opioid Recovery & Remediation Advisory Council-implement strategic plan;\$45M  
S3023 [Vitale, Joseph F.], Long-term care facilities/acute care hospitals-prov cert protections, residents  
S3285 [Ruiz, M. Teresa], Baby boxes-various St dept prov info linkages & safe sleep education on websites

### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026 (continued)**

#### **SENATE QUORUM Senate Chambers**

Group (3) Committees scheduled to meet

#### **Senate Commerce Meeting 10:00 AM**

**Committee Room 6, 1st Floor, State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

**Chair: Sen. Lagana, Joseph A.**

S818 [Singer, Robert W.+2], Div of Consumer Affairs-hire staff, alleviate prof lic application backlog;\$10M  
S1032 [Bramnick, Jon M./Lagana, Joseph A.+1], Health insur carrier network adequacy standards-estab addl, cert specialists  
S1382 [Lagana, Joseph A./Bramnick, Jon M.], Automobile insur policies-revises personal protection coverage from \$15K to \$50K  
S1388 [Lagana, Joseph A./Scutari, Nicholas P.+1], Health club svcs contracts-proh limiting liability, injury caused by negligence  
S1395 [Lagana, Joseph A./McKnight, Angela V.], Limited liability company-allow to terminate alternate name  
S1417 [Lagana, Joseph A.], Arbitration proceedings-parties represented by attorneys, certain circumstances  
S1493 [Cryan, Joseph P.], Occupational therapy-update requirements for licensure

### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026 (continued)**

#### **Senate Commerce Meeting (continued)**

S2777 [Johnson, Gordon M./Lagana, Joseph A.+3], Physicians in good standing-req automatic issuance of credential, provide svcs  
S2834 [McKnight, Angela V.+1], Elevator, escalator, & moving walkway mechanic licensees out-of-St reciprocity  
S3306 [Ruiz, M. Teresa], Health club svc-require notification to member, contract sold to new owner

#### **Senate Economic Growth Meeting 10:30 AM**

**Committee Room 4, 1st Floor, State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

**Chair: Sen. Cruz-Perez, Nilsa I.**

S731 [Burzichelli, John J./McKeon, John F.+1], Electric public utilities-develop and apply special tariff for data centers  
S1082 [Cruz-Perez, Nilsa I./Corrado, Kristin M.+2], Jersey Craft Beverage Retailer Promotion & Grant Program-establish  
S1837 [Singleton, Troy], Child care expenses for children of employees, certain-establish tax credit  
S2165 [Moriarty, Paul D.], Saving Our Diners & Protecting Our Past Act-provide certain tax incentives  
S2189 [Zwicker, Andrew/Burzichelli, John J.], Advanced transmission technologies-require BPU study potential deployment

#### **Senate Environment and Energy Meeting 10:00 AM**

**Committee Room 10, 3rd Floor, State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

**Chair: Sen. Smith, Bob**

S309 [Cruz-Perez, Nilsa I./Turner, Shirley K.+1], Lakes, certain State owned-req DEP provide public access for boats;\$2M  
S679 [Smith, Bob/McKeon, John F.+1], Climate Corporate Data Accountability Act-concerns greenhouse gas emissions data  
S684 [Smith, Bob/McKeon, John F.], Geothermal energy pilot program-establish for gas public utilities  
S685 [Smith, Bob], Fleet Conversion Task Force-establish in DEP  
S687 [Smith, Bob/McKeon, John F.], Jt. Blue Ribbon Task Force on Impacts of Climate Change on Prop. Insur-create  
S743 [Burzichelli, John J.], Habitat restoration, land acquisition, & oversight projects-appropriate \$58.145M  
S2161 [Moriarty, Paul D.], Payments in lieu of taxes, cert-concerns cert lands owned by St/nonprofit org  
S3251 [McKeon, John F.], Infrastructure Bank-make various changes to enabling act Pending Introduction and Referral:  
S3379 [Ruiz, M. Teresa], Semi-annual water & energy usage-req data center owners & operators submit

#### **Senate Higher Education Meeting 11:30 AM**

**Committee Room 1, 1st Floor, State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

**Chair: Sen. Cryan, Joseph P.**

The Committee will receive testimony from invited guests on ways to improve the State's Tuition Aid Grant Program.

S1461 [Cryan, Joseph P.+1], Academic credit & reverse credit transfer standards-establish  
S2243 [Ruiz, M. Teresa/McKnight, Angela V.], Menstrual products-req instit of higher education provide, all campus buildings  
S2962 [Mukherji, Raj/Amato, Carmen F.+1], Educational support professionals-prov seniority service credit for military svc Pending Introduction and Referral:  
S3383 [Cryan, Joseph P.], Tuition aid grant amounts-concerns

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026 (continued)

### **ASSEMBLY QUORUM Assembly Chambers**

10:00 AM: Committee Group (A) Scheduled to meet

2:00 PM: Committee Group (B) Scheduled to meet

### **\*\*Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Meeting 1:00 PM**

#### **Committee Room 14, 4th Floor, State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

##### **Chair: Asw. Katz, Andrea**

The committee will receive testimony from invited guests on the state of agriculture and farmland preservation in NJ. In the interest of promoting farm viability, the discussion will focus on how the Legislature can support technological and business innovation in the agricultural industry, in order to sustain family farms and promote locally grown fresh food.

### **\*\*Assembly Appropriations Meeting**

##### **Chair: Asw. Swain, Lisa**

The Committee will not meet.

### **\*\*Assembly Commerce and Economic Development**

#### **Meeting 2:00 PM Committee Room 15, 4th Floor,**

#### **State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

##### **Chair: Asm. Spearman, William W.**

A798 [Bailey, David/Simmons, Heather+5], Business receive cert notices electronically-req St entities offer optional svc  
A2078 [Carter, Linda S./Verrelli, Anthony S.], Out-of-state contractors-estab registry, awarded public works contracts in State  
A3955 [Karabinchak, Robert J.+2], Vacant commercial space-requires study for small businesses

### **\*\*Assembly Community Development and Women's Affairs**

#### **Meeting**

##### **Chair: Asw. McCoy, Tennille R.**

The Committee will not meet.

### **\*\*Assembly Consumer Affairs Meeting 10:00 AM**

#### **Committee Room 13, 4th Floor, State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

##### **Chair: Asm. Sampson, William B.**

A1651 [Kane, Melinda], Mattress Stewardship Act-req mattress producers join org & implement program  
A1959 [Quijano, Annette/Sampson, William B.], Billing due date-proh. telecommunications/utility companies from charging prior  
A3125 [Swain, Lisa/Haider, Shama A.+6], Menstrual products-bans regulated perfluoroalkyl & polyfluoroalkyl substances  
A3256 [Hutchison, Dan/Venezia, Michael+3], Mandatory gratuity-req restaurant disclose to patrons, failure unlawful practice  
A3318 [Sampson, William B.], Restaurant reservation-ban unauthorized arrangement, third-party reservation svc

### **\*\*Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance**

#### **Meeting 10:00 AM Committee Room 11, 4th Floor,**

#### **State House Annex, Trenton, NJ Chair: Asm. Freiman, Roy**

A434 [Venezia, Michael/Reynolds-Jackson, Verlina], Medications, maintenance-prohibits SHBP, SEHBP or Medicaid from denying coverage  
A1142 [Danielsen, Joe/Reynolds-Jackson, Verlina+23], Prostate cancer screening-expands requirements for health insurance carriers  
A2550 [Bagolie, Rosaura/Speight, Shanique+2], Children w/ disabilities, 26 or older-req cont, health benf dependent coverage  
A3242 [Hutchison, Dan/Donlon, Margie+1], Continuous glucose monitoring sys-req health coverage, glycogen storage disease  
For Discussion Only:  
A3257 [Hutchison, Dan], Health insurance carriers-proh making cert changes, during term of contract

### **\*\*Assembly Health Meeting**

##### **Chair: Asw. Murphy, Carol A.**

The Committee will not meet.

### **\*\*Assembly Higher Education Meeting**

##### **Chair: Asw. Morales, Carmen Theresa**

The Committee will not meet.

### **\*\*Assembly Housing Meeting**

##### **Chair: Asw. Lopez, Yvonne**

The Committee will not meet.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026 (continued)

### **\*\*Assembly Oversight, Reform and Federal Relations**

#### **Meeting 2:00 PM Committee Room 13, 4th Floor,**

#### **State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

##### **Chair: Asm. Schnall, Alexander**

A474 [Rodriguez, Gabriel/Peterpaul, Luanne M.+3], Support services, General Assistance beneficiaries-estab system, ensure funds  
A782 [Bailey, David/Donlon, Margie+2], Residential substance use disorder treatment fac or prog-revise licensure req  
A1620 [Kean, Sean T.+1], Conservation restrictions, certain-directs DEP lift as condition of CAFRA permit  
A2268 [Donlon, Margie/Tucker, Cleopatra G.+4], Substance & alcohol use disorder-req cert providers, be assessed for conflicts  
A2735 [Katz, Andrea/Speight, Shanique], Office of Disordered Eating Prev & Disordered Eating Prev Research Grant Prog  
A2739 [Katz, Andrea+3], Social media platform-proh promoting cert practices/features, eating disorders  
A3236 [Hutchison, Dan/Haider, Shama A.+3], Peer recovery specialists-establish oversight and qualifications  
A3877 [Coughlin, Craig J./Speight, Shanique+2], Develop housing-estab cert St funding preference, mun that enhance opportunities

### **\*\*Assembly Regulated Professions Meeting 2:00 PM Committee Room 12, 4th Floor, State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

##### **Chair: Asm. Hutchison, Dan**

A2001 [Quijano, Annette], Dialysis-related drugs & devices, cert-establish pharmacist licensing exemption  
A2288 [Donlon, Margie/Stanley, Sterley S.], Source plasma donation centers-establish licensure requirement  
A2401 [Moen, William F.], Scrap metal businesses-establish safety measures  
A3381 [Stanley, Sterley S.+2], Occupational therapy-update requirements for licensure Pending Referral:  
A1340 [Miller, Cody D./Hutchison, Dan], Consumer debt lawsuits-collect and publish statistical information

### **\*\*Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Meeting 10:00 AM Committee Room 15, 4th Floor, State House Annex, Trenton, NJ**

##### **Chair: Asm. DeAngelo, Wayne P.**

A796 [Bailey, David/Danielsen, Joe+3], Electric public utilities-develop and apply special tariff for data centers  
A804 [Bailey, David/Freiman, Roy], Governor's annual budget message-report societal benf charge rev/expend included  
A3969 [Karabinchak, Robert J.], Solar development goals of SREC-II program-increase & extend cert target dates

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

### **SENATE QUORUM Senate Chambers**

10:00 AM: Group (4) Committees scheduled to meet

### **ASSEMBLY QUORUM Assembly Chambers**

10:00 AM: Committee Group (C) Scheduled to meet

2:00 PM: Committee Group (D) Scheduled to meet

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

### **SENATE SESSION 1:00 PM Senate Chambers**

Voting Session: Board list to be announced

### **\*ASSEMBLY SESSION Assembly Chambers**

Voting Session: Board list to be announced

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

### **ASSEMBLY SESSION Assembly Chambers**

Voting Session: Board list to be announced

## MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

### **SENATE QUORUM Senate Chambers**

10:00 AM: Group (1) Committees scheduled to meet

## THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026

### **SENATE QUORUM Senate Chambers**

10:00 AM: Group (2) Committees scheduled to meet

**MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026**

**ASSEMBLY QUORUM Assembly Chambers**

10:00 AM: Committee Group (A) Scheduled to meet

2:00 PM: Committee Group (B) Scheduled to meet

**MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026**

**SENATE QUORUM Senate Chambers**

10:00 AM: Group (3) Committees scheduled to meet

**ASSEMBLY QUORUM Assembly Chambers**

10:00 AM: Committee Group (C) Scheduled to meet

2:00 PM: Committee Group (D) Scheduled to meet

**THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026**

**SENATE QUORUM Senate Chambers**

10:00 AM: Group (4) Committees scheduled to meet

**ASSEMBLY QUORUM Assembly Chambers**

Committees at the Call of the Speaker

**MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026**

**SENATE SESSION 1:00 PM Senate Chambers**

Voting Session: Board list to be announced

**ASSEMBLY QUORUM Assembly Chambers**

Committees at the Call of the Speaker

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026**

**ASSEMBLY SESSION Assembly Chambers**

Voting Session: Board list to be announced

**SENATE, No. 1032**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**222nd LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2026 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JON M. BRAMNICK**

**District 21 (Middlesex, Morris, Somerset and Union)**

**Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA**

**District 38 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Singer**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes additional health insurance carrier network adequacy standards with respect to certain physician specialists.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.





1 law requires regulations for those carriers to include standards for  
2 the adequacy of the provider network with respect to the scope and  
3 type of health care benefits provided by the carrier, the geographic  
4 service area covered by the provider network, and access to medical  
5 specialists. This bill requires the Commissioner of Banking and  
6 Insurance to adopt regulations to ensure that covered persons have  
7 reasonable and timely access to physician specialists at in-network  
8 hospitals and facilities, including anesthesiologists, radiologists,  
9 pathologists, emergency medicine physicians, and services under  
10 their supervision.

**SENATE, No. 2959**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**222nd LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2026 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 32 (Hudson)**

**Senator JAMES BEACH**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires DHS to reformat MyNJHelps web-based platform as centralized online resource for all State administered public assistance programs.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1   AN ACT concerning public assistance programs and supplementing  
2   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. No later than 365 days after the effective date of this  
8   section, the Commissioner of Human Services, in collaboration with  
9   all applicable State agencies, shall expand the MyNJHelps web-  
10   based application platform for SNAP, WFNJ, and NJFamilyCare to  
11   include all State administered public assistance programs.  
12   Compliance with this subsection shall require the commissioner to:  
13   (1) reformat the MyNJHelps web-based application platform as the  
14   State's centralized online resource for applicants to access  
15   information about, apply for benefits to, and check the application  
16   status of all State administered public assistance programs; and (2)  
17   design a single application, accessible on the MyNJHelps web-  
18   based application platform, through which an applicant can apply  
19   for all State administered public assistance programs.

20       b. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to alter  
21   the administering agency of a public assistance program. The  
22   platform established in accordance with subsection a. of this section  
23   shall provide all applicable administering agencies with access to  
24   the necessary applicant information to make eligibility  
25   determinations, as well as access to platform functions to post  
26   information regarding application status.

27       c. The commissioner shall enter into any necessary data  
28   sharing agreements with applicable State agencies to comply with  
29   the provisions of this section.

30       d. As used in this section:

31       “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Human Services.

32       “Public assistance program” means a program that provides  
33   benefits to low-income New Jersey residents via a means-tested  
34   eligibility process. These types of programs provide benefits that  
35   include, but that are not limited to: healthcare, pharmaceutical,  
36   food, cash, child care, housing, and utility assistance.

37       “NJFamilyCare” means the program established pursuant to  
38   P.L.2005, c.156 (C.30:4J-8 et al.), which includes the Children’s  
39   Health Insurance Program and the Medicaid Program.

40       “SNAP” means the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
41   established pursuant to the federal “Food and Nutrition Act of  
42   2008,” Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).

43       “WFNJ” means the Work First New Jersey Program established  
44   pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) in accordance with  
45   authorization received under Title IV of the federal “Personal  
46   Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996,”  
47   Pub.L.104-193 (8 U.S.C. s.1601 et seq.).

1       2. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

STATEMENT

5

6       This bill directs the Commissioner of Human Services  
7 (commissioner), no later than 365 days after the effective date of  
8 the bill and in collaboration with all applicable State agencies, to  
9 expand the MyNJHelps web-based application platform for the  
10 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the Work First New  
11 Jersey Program, and the NJFamilyCare Program to include all State  
12 administered public assistance programs. In doing so, the  
13 commissioner is required to: reformat the MyNJHelps web-based  
14 application platform as the State's centralized online resource for  
15 applicants to access information about, apply for benefits to, and  
16 check the application status of all State administered public  
17 assistance programs; and design a single application, accessible on  
18 the MyNJHelps web-based application platform, through which an  
19 applicant can apply for all State administered public assistance  
20 programs. The bill defines "public assistance program" to mean a  
21 program that provides benefits to low-income New Jersey residents  
22 via a means-tested eligibility process. These types of programs  
23 provide benefits that include, but that are not limited to: healthcare,  
24 pharmaceutical, food, cash, child care, housing, and utility  
25 assistance.

26       The provisions of the bill are not to be construed to alter the  
27 administrating agency of a public assistance program. Rather, the  
28 platform established under the bill is required to provide all  
29 applicable administering agencies with access to the necessary  
30 applicant information to make eligibility determinations, as well as  
31 access to platform functions to post information regarding  
32 application status. Moreover, the bill directs the commissioner to  
33 enter into any necessary data sharing agreements with applicable  
34 State agencies to comply with the provisions of the bill.

**SENATE, No. 1772**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**222nd LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2026 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator TROY SINGLETON**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Senator JAMES BEACH**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator McKnight**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires DOH to develop Statewide Emergency Medical Services Plan.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1    **AN ACT** concerning emergency medical services and supplementing  
2    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. The Office of Emergency Medical Services in the  
8    Department of Health shall develop a Statewide Emergency  
9    Medical Services Plan that shall provide for a comprehensive,  
10   coordinated, emergency medical services system in New Jersey.  
11   The plan shall include both short-term and long-term goals and  
12   objectives, and may incorporate the use of regional emergency  
13   medical services plans tailored to the specific needs of regions  
14   within the State as may be designated by the office. Regional plans,  
15   if used, shall be jointly developed by each county board of health in  
16   that region, in consultation with local boards of health as needed. A  
17   regional plan shall be subject to approval by the office; upon  
18   approval, the regional plan shall be deemed to be part of the  
19   Statewide plan. The office shall review and update the Statewide  
20   plan triennially, and shall make such changes to the plan as may be  
21   necessary to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the State's  
22   emergency medical services system of care. The department shall  
23   make the Statewide Emergency Medical Services Plan available on  
24   its Internet website.

25        b. In developing and updating the Statewide Emergency  
26   Medical Services Plan pursuant to subsection a. of this section, the  
27   office shall, at a minimum:

28            (1) conduct an inventory of emergency medical services  
29   resources available within the State;

30            (2) conduct an assessment of the current effectiveness of the  
31   emergency medical services system of care in the State;

32            (3) determine the need for changes to the current emergency  
33   medical services system of care in the State, including any changes  
34   as may be needed to improve access to emergency medical services  
35   in a given region of the State or for a given population within the  
36   State;

37            (4) develop performance metrics with regard to the delivery of  
38   emergency medical services in the State, establish a schedule for  
39   achieving the performance metrics, develop a method for  
40   monitoring and evaluating whether the performance metrics are  
41   being achieved, and prepare an estimate of costs for achieving the  
42   performance metrics;

43            (5) work with professional medical organizations, hospitals, and  
44   other public and private agencies to develop approaches whereby  
45   individuals who presently use the existing emergency department  
46   for routine, nonurgent, primary medical care will be served more  
47   appropriately and economically; and

1       (6) consult with and review, with appropriate emergency  
2 medical services providers and organizations, the development of  
3 applications to governmental or other appropriate sources for grants  
4 or other funding to support emergency medical services programs.

5       c. The Statewide Emergency Medical Services Plan developed  
6 pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall:

7           (1) establish a comprehensive Statewide emergency medical  
8 services system, incorporating facilities, transportation, manpower,  
9 communications, and other components as integral parts of a unified  
10 system that will serve to improve the delivery of emergency  
11 medical services and thereby decrease morbidity, hospitalization,  
12 disability, and mortality;

13           (2) seek to reduce the time period between the identification of  
14 an acutely ill or injured patient and the provision of definitive  
15 treatment for the illness or injury;

16           (3) increase access to high quality emergency medical services  
17 for all citizens of New Jersey;

18           (4) promote continuing improvement in system components,  
19 including: ground, water, and air transportation; communications;  
20 hospital emergency departments and other emergency medical care  
21 facilities; health care provider training and health care service  
22 delivery; and consumer health information and education;

23           (5) ensure performance improvement of the emergency medical  
24 services system and of the emergency medical services and care  
25 delivered on scene, in transit, in hospital emergency departments,  
26 and within the hospital environment;

27           (6) conduct, promote, and encourage programs of education and  
28 training designed to upgrade the knowledge and skills of emergency  
29 medical services personnel, including expanding the availability of  
30 paramedic and advanced life support training throughout the State,  
31 with particular emphasis on regions underserved by emergency  
32 medical services personnel having such skills and training;

33           (7) maintain a process for designating appropriate hospitals as  
34 trauma centers, certified stroke centers, and specialty care centers  
35 based on an applicable national evaluation system;

36           (8) maintain a comprehensive emergency medical services  
37 patient care data collection and performance improvement system,  
38 which shall incorporate the information reported to the department  
39 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2017, c.116 (C.26:2K-67);

40           (9) collect data and information and prepare reports for the sole  
41 purpose of designating and verifying trauma centers and other  
42 specialty care centers, as described in paragraph (7) of this  
43 subsection; provided that data and information collected and reports  
44 prepared pursuant to this paragraph shall not be considered a  
45 government record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.),  
46 P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.), or the common law concerning  
47 access to government records;

1       (10) establish and maintain a process for crisis intervention and  
2 peer support services for emergency medical services personnel and  
3 public safety personnel, including Statewide availability and  
4 accreditation of critical incident stress management or peer support  
5 teams and personnel. Such accreditation standards shall include a  
6 requirement that a peer support team be headed by a clinical  
7 psychologist, psychiatrist, clinical social worker, or professional  
8 counselor who: (a) is licensed pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised  
9 Statutes; and (b) has at least five years of experience as a mental  
10 health consultant working directly with emergency medical services  
11 personnel or public safety personnel;

12     (11) coordinate with the Emergency Medical Services for  
13 Children Program to maintain, and update as needed, the Statewide  
14 program of emergency medical services for children developed  
15 pursuant to P.L.1992, c.96 (C.26:2K-48 et seq.);

16     (12) establish and support a Statewide system of health and  
17 medical emergency response teams, including emergency medical  
18 services disaster task forces, coordination teams, disaster medical  
19 assistance teams, and other support teams that shall assist local  
20 emergency medical services providers at their request during mass  
21 casualty events, disasters, or whenever local resources are  
22 overwhelmed;

23     (13) establish and maintain a program to improve the  
24 dispatching of emergency medical services personnel and vehicles,  
25 including establishing and supporting emergency medical services  
26 dispatch training, accrediting 911 dispatch centers, and establishing  
27 and maintaining public safety answering points; and

28     (14) identify and establish best practices for managing and  
29 operating emergency medical services providers, improving and  
30 managing emergency medical services response times, and  
31 disseminating such information to the appropriate persons and  
32 entities.

33     d. In developing the Statewide Emergency Medical Services  
34 Plan, the office shall coordinate with the Emergency Medical  
35 Services for Children program and the State trauma medical  
36 director, which shall each revise any plans, programs, protocols, or  
37 other requirements related to emergency medical services as may be  
38 necessary to bring those plans, programs, protocols, or other  
39 requirements into conformity with the Statewide Emergency  
40 Medical Services Plan.

41

42     2. This act shall take effect 180 days after the date of  
43 enactment.

## STATEMENT

3 This bill requires the Office of Emergency Medical Services  
4 (OEMS) in the Department of Health (DOH) to develop a Statewide  
5 Emergency Medical Services Plan that provides for a comprehensive,  
6 coordinated, emergency medical services (EMS) system in New  
7 Jersey. The plan is to include both short-term and long-term goals and  
8 objectives, and may incorporate the use of regional emergency medical  
9 services plans tailored to the specific needs of regions within the State  
10 as may be designated by the OEMS. If used, regional plans are to be  
11 jointly developed by each county board of health within the designated  
12 region, and will be developed in consultation with local boards of  
13 health, as needed. Regional plans will be subject to approval by the  
14 OEMS; upon receiving such approval, the regional plan will be  
15 deemed to be part of the Statewide plan. The OEMS will be required  
16 to review and update the Statewide plan triennially, and to make such  
17 changes to the plan as may be necessary to improve the effectiveness  
18 and efficiency of the State's EMS system of care. The DOH will be  
19 required to make the Statewide Emergency Medical Services Plan  
20 available on its Internet website.

21 In developing and updating the Statewide Emergency Medical  
22 Services Plan, the OEMS will be required, at a minimum, to:

23 (1) conduct an inventory of EMS resources available within the  
24 State;

25 (2) conduct an assessment of the current effectiveness of the EMS  
26 system of care in the State;

27 (3) determine the need for changes to the current EMS system of  
28 care, including any changes as may be needed to improve access to  
29 EMS in a given region of the State or for a given population within the  
30 State;

31 (4) develop performance metrics with regard to the delivery of  
32 EMS, establish a schedule for achieving the performance metrics,  
33 develop a method for monitoring and evaluating whether the  
34 performance metrics are being achieved, and prepare a cost estimate  
35 for achieving the performance metrics;

36 (5) work with professional medical organizations, hospitals, and  
37 other public and private agencies to develop approaches whereby  
38 individuals who presently use the existing emergency department for  
39 routine, nonurgent, primary medical care will be served more  
40 appropriately and economically; and

41 (6) consult with and review, with appropriate EMS agencies and  
42 organizations, the development of applications to governmental or  
43 other appropriate sources for grants or other funding to support EMS  
44 programs.

45 The bill additionally requires the Statewide Emergency Medical  
46 Services Plan to:

47 (1) establish a comprehensive Statewide EMS system,  
48 incorporating facilities, transportation, manpower, communications,

1 and other components as integral parts of a unified system that will  
2 serve to improve the delivery of EMS and thereby decrease morbidity,  
3 hospitalization, disability, and mortality;

4 (2) seek to reduce the time period between the identification of an  
5 acutely ill or injured patient and the provision of definitive treatment  
6 for the illness or injury;

7 (3) increase access to high quality EMS for all citizens of New  
8 Jersey;

9 (4) promote continuing improvement in system components,  
10 including: ground, water, and air transportation; communications;  
11 hospital emergency departments and other emergency medical care  
12 facilities; health care provider training and health care service  
13 delivery; and consumer health information and education;

14 (5) ensure performance improvement of the EMS system and of  
15 the emergency services and care delivered on scene, in transit, in  
16 hospital emergency departments, and within the hospital environment;

17 (6) conduct, promote, and encourage programs of education and  
18 training designed to upgrade the knowledge and skills of EMS  
19 personnel, including expanding the availability of paramedic and  
20 advanced life support training throughout the State, with particular  
21 emphasis on regions underserved by EMS personnel having such skills  
22 and training;

23 (7) maintain a process for designating appropriate hospitals as  
24 trauma centers, certified stroke centers, and specialty care centers  
25 based on an applicable national evaluation system;

26 (8) maintain a comprehensive EMS patient care data collection and  
27 performance improvement system, which is to incorporate certain  
28 EMS data currently reported to the DOH;

29 (9) collect data and information and prepare reports for the sole  
30 purpose of designating and verifying trauma centers and other  
31 specialty care centers, which data, information, and reports will not be  
32 considered a government record for the purposes of open public  
33 records access laws;

34 (10) establish and maintain a process for crisis intervention and  
35 peer support services for EMS personnel and public safety personnel,  
36 including Statewide availability and accreditation of critical incident  
37 stress management or peer support teams and personnel. The  
38 accreditation standards are to include a requirement that a peer support  
39 team be headed by a clinical psychologist, psychiatrist, clinical social  
40 worker, or professional counselor who: (a) is licensed pursuant to  
41 Title 45 of the Revised Statutes; and (b) has at least five years of  
42 experience as a mental health consultant working directly with EMS  
43 personnel or public safety personnel;

44 (11) coordinate with the Emergency Medical Services for  
45 Children Program to maintain, and update as needed, the Statewide  
46 program of EMS for children developed under current law;

47 (12) establish and support a Statewide system of health and  
48 medical emergency response teams, including EMS disaster task

1 forces, coordination teams, disaster medical assistance teams, and  
2 other support teams that will assist local EMS providers at their  
3 request during mass casualty events, disasters, or whenever local  
4 resources are overwhelmed;

5 (13) establish and maintain a program to improve dispatching of  
6 EMS personnel and vehicles, including establishing and supporting  
7 EMS dispatch training, accrediting 911 dispatch centers, and  
8 establishing and maintaining public safety answering points; and

9 (14) identify and establish best practices for managing and  
10 operating EMS providers, improving and managing EMS response  
11 times, and disseminating such information to the appropriate persons  
12 and entities.

13 In developing the Statewide Emergency Medical Services Plan, the  
14 OEMS will be required to coordinate with the Emergency Medical  
15 Services for Children program and the State trauma medical director,  
16 both of which will be required to revise any plans, programs,  
17 protocols, or other requirements related to EMS as may be necessary  
18 to bring those plans, programs, protocols, or other requirements into  
19 conformity with the Statewide Emergency Medical Services Plan.