



(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at [www.njleg.state.nj.us](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us))

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** No

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** Yes

**VETO MESSAGE:** No

**GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:** Yes

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**REPORTS:** No

**HEARINGS:** No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** No

RWH/JA

Title 26.  
Chapter 4C.  
(New)  
Lactation Rooms  
§§1-3 -  
C.26:4C-1 to  
C.26:4C-3

**(CORRECTED COPY)**

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 242, *approved August 15, 2019*  
Senate, No. 1735

1 **AN ACT** concerning lactation rooms and policies 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. As used in this act:

8 “Department” means the Department of Health.

9 “Health care facility” means a health care facility that is licensed  
10 by the department pursuant to the “Health Care Facilities Planning  
11 Act,” P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.).

12 “Lactation room” means a sanitary room, other than a restroom,  
13 which can be used by a mother to breast feed her baby or express  
14 milk in private, and which includes an electrical outlet, a chair, and  
15 nearby access to running water.

16 “Medical Assistance Customer Center” means a community-  
17 based office that is operated by the Division of Medical Assistance  
18 and Health Services in the Department of Human Services.

19 “One-Stop Career Center” means the same as that term is defined  
20 by section 3 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-3).

21

22 2. a. Every health care facility; federally qualified health  
23 center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical  
24 Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop Career Center  
25 operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and  
26 Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or  
27 under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and  
28 Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care  
29 services agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and  
30 Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and  
31 Permanency, shall, where practicable, make at least one lactation  
32 room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site  
33 services. The presence of any such lactation room shall not  
34 abrogate or otherwise limit the mother’s right to breast feed her  
35 baby in public, as provided by section 2 of P.L.1997, c.101  
36 (C.26:4B-4).

1       b. The department shall create signage that: (1) contains  
2 information about breast feeding; (2) affirms a mother's right to  
3 nurse in public, as provided by section 2 of P.L.1997, c.101  
4 (C.26:4B-4); and (3) indicates that lactation rooms are being made  
5 available for the privacy and comfort of nursing mothers, pursuant  
6 to this act. Such signage shall be distributed directly to the various  
7 facilities identified in subsection a. of this section, and shall  
8 additionally be posted, in a printable format, on the department's  
9 Internet website. A facility that is required to provide a lactation  
10 room pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall display the  
11 signage prepared under this subsection in a clear and conspicuous  
12 manner in the facility's public waiting room, as well as in any  
13 lactation room that is made available pursuant to this act.

14       c. No later than one year after the effective date of this act, the  
15 department shall establish, and shall post at a publicly accessible  
16 location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made  
17 lactation rooms available pursuant to this section. Thereafter, the  
18 department shall make regular updates to the list, as may be  
19 necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date information  
20 on the availability of lactation rooms in the State. The list  
21 established pursuant to this subsection shall additionally include a  
22 hyperlink to the reports on school lactation-related policies that  
23 have been posted on the Department of Education website in  
24 accordance with the provisions of section 3 of this act.

25       d. The department may adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to  
26 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1  
27 et seq.), to implement the provisions of this section, including rules  
28 and regulations that establish guidelines for the location and  
29 placement of lactation rooms within a facility, and rules and  
30 regulations that establish training requirements for staff who are  
31 employed at a facility where a lactation room is required.

32  
33       3. a. Within one year following the effective date of this act,  
34 and on an annual basis thereafter, the Department of Education shall  
35 evaluate, and report to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of  
36 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, on the lactation-  
37 related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges,  
38 and universities in the State.

39       b. Each report submitted pursuant to this section shall: (1)  
40 summarize the applicable policies in this area; (2) indicate the  
41 number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a  
42 designated lactation room; and (3) indicate the manner in which  
43 such policies were communicated to students, parents, and  
44 guardians during the preceding school year.

45       c. Each report submitted pursuant to this section shall be  
46 posted at a publicly-accessible location on the Department of  
47 Education's Internet website.

1       4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6       This bill would require every health care facility; federally  
7 qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or  
8 agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop  
9 Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the  
10 Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency  
11 or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of  
12 Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children  
13 and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child  
14 Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child  
15 Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one  
16 lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is  
17 utilizing on-site services. The presence of any such lactation room  
18 would not abrogate or otherwise limit the mother's right to breast  
19 feed her baby in public, as provided by existing law.

20       The bill would require the Department of Health (DOH) to create  
21 signage that: contains information about breast feeding; affirms a  
22 mother's right to nurse in public; and indicates that lactation rooms  
23 are being made available for the privacy and comfort of nursing  
24 mothers, pursuant to the bill's provisions. Such signage is to be  
25 distributed directly to the various facilities identified in the bill, and  
26 is also to be posted, in a printable format, on the department's  
27 Internet website. A facility that is required to provide a lactation  
28 room pursuant to the bill's provisions would be required to display  
29 the prepared signage in a clear and conspicuous manner in the  
30 facility's public waiting room, as well as in any lactation room that  
31 is made available.

32       No later than one year after the bill's effective date, the DOH  
33 would be required to establish, and post at a publicly accessible  
34 location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made  
35 lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions.  
36 Thereafter, the DOH would be required to make regular updates to  
37 the list, as may be necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-  
38 to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms in the  
39 State.

40       The bill would additionally require the Department of Education  
41 (DOE) to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the  
42 lactation-related policies that have been implemented at schools,  
43 colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to:  
44 summarize the applicable policies in this area; indicate the number  
45 and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated  
46 lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were  
47 communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the  
48 preceding school year. Each report would be posted at a publicly-

**S1735**

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1 accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink  
2 to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities  
3 that is posted on the DOH website.

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8 Requires certain public facilities and offices to provide on-site  
9 lactation room; DOH to provide information about lactation room  
10 availability; and DOE to provide information on lactation policies  
11 in schools.

# SENATE, No. 1735

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 5, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator LORETTA WEINBERG**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA**

**District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

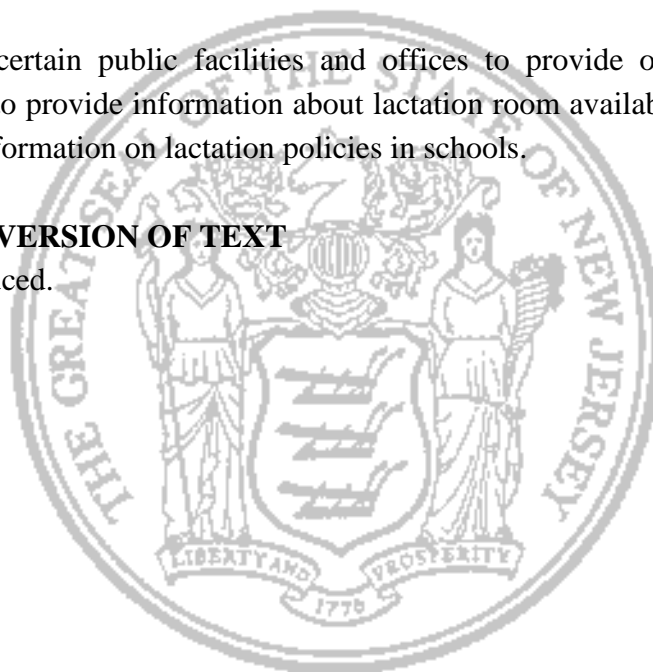
**Assemblywomen McKnight, Vainieri Huttle, Assemblyman Conaway,  
Assemblywomen Speight and Downey**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires certain public facilities and offices to provide on-site lactation room; DOH to provide information about lactation room availability; and DOE to provide information on lactation policies in schools.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/24/2019)**

1 AN ACT concerning lactation rooms and policies and supplementing  
2 Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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11 Act,” P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.).

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13 which can be used by a mother to breast feed her baby or express  
14 milk in private, and which includes an electrical outlet, a chair, and  
15 nearby access to running water.

16 “Medical Assistance Customer Center” means a community-  
17 based office that is operated by the Division of Medical Assistance  
18 and Health Services in the Department of Human Services.

19 “One-Stop Career Center” means the same as that term is defined  
20 by section 3 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-3).

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22 2. a. Every health care facility; federally qualified health  
23 center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical  
24 Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop Career Center  
25 operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and  
26 Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or  
27 under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and  
28 Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care  
29 services agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and  
30 Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and  
31 Permanency, shall, where practicable, make at least one lactation  
32 room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site  
33 services. The presence of any such lactation room shall not  
34 abrogate or otherwise limit the mother’s right to breast feed her  
35 baby in public, as provided by section 2 of P.L.1997, c.101  
36 (C.26:4B-4).

37 b. The department shall create signage that: (1) contains  
38 information about breast feeding; (2) affirms a mother’s right to  
39 nurse in public, as provided by section 2 of P.L.1997, c.101  
40 (C.26:4B-4); and (3) indicates that lactation rooms are being made  
41 available for the privacy and comfort of nursing mothers, pursuant  
42 to this act. Such signage shall be distributed directly to the various  
43 facilities identified in subsection a. of this section, and shall  
44 additionally be posted, in a printable format, on the department’s  
45 Internet website. A facility that is required to provide a lactation  
46 room pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall display the  
47 signage prepared under this subsection in a clear and conspicuous



1 manner in the facility's public waiting room, as well as in any  
2 lactation room that is made available pursuant to this act.

3 c. No later than one year after the effective date of this act, the  
4 department shall establish, and shall post at a publicly accessible  
5 location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made  
6 lactation rooms available pursuant to this section. Thereafter, the  
7 department shall make regular updates to the list, as may be  
8 necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date information  
9 on the availability of lactation rooms in the State. The list  
10 established pursuant to this subsection shall additionally include a  
11 hyperlink to the reports on school lactation-related policies that  
12 have been posted on the Department of Education website in  
13 accordance with the provisions of section 3 of this act.

14 d. The department may adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to  
15 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1  
16 et seq.), to implement the provisions of this section, including rules  
17 and regulations that establish guidelines for the location and  
18 placement of lactation rooms within a facility, and rules and  
19 regulations that establish training requirements for staff who are  
20 employed at a facility where a lactation room is required.

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22 3. a. Within one year following the effective date of this act,  
23 and on an annual basis thereafter, the Department of Education shall  
24 evaluate, and report to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of  
25 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, on the lactation-  
26 related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges,  
27 and universities in the State.

28 b. Each report submitted pursuant to this section shall: (1)  
29 summarize the applicable policies in this area; (2) indicate the  
30 number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a  
31 designated lactation room; and (3) indicate the manner in which  
32 such policies were communicated to students, parents, and  
33 guardians during the preceding school year.

34 c. Each report submitted pursuant to this section shall be  
35 posted at a publicly-accessible location on the Department of  
36 Education's Internet website.

37  
38 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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43 This bill would require every health care facility; federally  
44 qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or  
45 agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop  
46 Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the  
47 Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency  
48 or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of

1 Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children  
2 and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child  
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4 Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one  
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7 would not abrogate or otherwise limit the mother's right to breast  
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22 would be required to establish, and post at a publicly accessible  
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27 to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms in the  
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30 (DOE) to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the  
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32 colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to:  
33 summarize the applicable policies in this area; indicate the number  
34 and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated  
35 lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were  
36 communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the  
37 preceding school year. Each report would be posted at a publicly-  
38 accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink  
39 to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities  
40 that is posted on the DOH website.

# ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE, No. 1735

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1735.

This bill requires every health care facility; federally qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site services. The presence of any such lactation room would not abrogate or otherwise limit the mother's right to breast feed her baby in public, as provided by existing law.

The bill requires the Department of Health (DOH) to create signage that: contains information about breast feeding; affirms a mother's right to nurse in public; and indicates that lactation rooms are being made available for the privacy and comfort of nursing mothers, pursuant to the bill's provisions. Such signage is to be distributed directly to the various facilities identified in the bill, and is also to be posted, in a printable format, on the department's Internet website. A facility that is required to provide a lactation room pursuant to the bill's provisions is required to display the prepared signage in a clear and conspicuous manner in the facility's public waiting room, as well as in any lactation room that is made available.

No later than one year after the bill's effective date, the DOH is required to establish, and post at a publicly accessible location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions. Thereafter, the DOH is required to make regular updates to the list, as may be necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms in the State.

The bill requires the Department of Education (DOE) to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the lactation-related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to: summarize the applicable policies

in this area; indicate the number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the preceding school year. Each report is to be posted at a publicly-accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities that is posted on the DOH website.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 1735 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 1663 which was reported by the committee on this date.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes the bill may increase State costs incurred by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Education (DOE) in fulfilling certain administrative and reporting requirements of the bill. However, without information from the Executive, the OLS cannot quantify these costs.

The OLS predicts that most facilities required to make a lactation room available will not incur any expense in fulfilling this provision. It is likely that any costs incurred by these State and local entities due to this provision will be insignificant. The OLS concludes that most facilities will not need to create a lactation room, but instead designate an existing space that meets the bill's definition and that can be available upon request as a lactation room. Furthermore, a lactation room is required only where practical; therefore, a facility may choose not to create one if it will incur significant costs in doing so.

The bill provides for two one-time costs for the DOH: 1) the creation and distribution of an informational sign, as described in the bill; and 2) the establishment of a publicly posted list of facilities with lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions. Annual expenses associated with this bill include the issuing of an annual report, as outlined in the bill, by the DOE. It may be possible for the DOE to gather the data required within the report using an existing system, thereby minimizing costs.

# ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE, No. 1735

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 20, 2019

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1735.

This bill requires every health care facility; federally qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site services. The presence of any such lactation room would not abrogate or otherwise limit the mother's right to breast feed her baby in public, as provided by existing law.

The bill requires the Department of Health (DOH) to create signage that: contains information about breast feeding; affirms a mother's right to nurse in public; and indicates that lactation rooms are being made available for the privacy and comfort of nursing mothers, pursuant to the bill's provisions. Such signage is to be distributed directly to the various facilities identified in the bill, and is also to be posted, in a printable format, on the department's Internet website. A facility that is required to provide a lactation room pursuant to the bill's provisions is required to display the prepared signage in a clear and conspicuous manner in the facility's public waiting room, as well as in any lactation room that is made available.

No later than one year after the bill's effective date, the DOH is required to establish, and post at a publicly accessible location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions. Thereafter, the DOH is required to make regular updates to the list, as may be necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms in the State.

The bill requires the Department of Education (DOE) to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the lactation-related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to: summarize the applicable policies

in this area; indicate the number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the preceding school year. Each report is to be posted at a publicly-accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities that is posted on the DOH website.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No.1735 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 1663, which also was reported by the committee on this date.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes the bill may potentially increase annual State costs incurred by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Education (DOE) by indeterminate amounts in fulfilling certain administrative and reporting requirements of the bill. However, without information from the Executive, the OLS cannot quantify these costs.

The OLS predicts that most state and local facilities required to make a lactation room available under the bill may not incur any significant one-time expenses in fulfilling this provision due to already having a designated space for breastfeeding mothers as required under other State and federal law. Moreover, any one-time expenses associated with the creation and distribution of informational signs by the State and the establishment of a publicly posted list of facilities with lactation rooms are likely to be marginal

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR  
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 1735**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 12, 2018

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1735.

This bill would require every health care facility; federally qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site services. The presence of any such lactation room would not abrogate or otherwise limit the mother's right to breast feed her baby in public, as provided by existing law.

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The bill would additionally require the Department of Education (DOE) to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the

lactation-related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to: summarize the applicable policies in this area; indicate the number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the preceding school year. Each report would be posted at a publicly-accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities that is posted on the DOH website.



# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE, No. 1735

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 11, 2018

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1735.

This bill requires every health care facility; federally qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site services. The presence of any such lactation room would not abrogate or otherwise limit the mother's right to breast feed her baby in public, as provided by existing law.

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in this area; indicate the number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the preceding school year. Each report is to be posted at a publicly-accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities that is posted on the DOH website.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes the bill may increase State costs incurred by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Education (DOE) in fulfilling certain administrative and reporting requirements of the bill. However, without information from the Executive, the OLS cannot quantify these costs.

The OLS predicts that most facilities required to make a lactation room available will not incur any expense in fulfilling this provision. It is likely that any costs incurred by these State and local entities due to this provision will be insignificant. The OLS concludes that most facilities will not need to create a lactation room, but instead designate an existing space that meets the bill's definition and that can be available upon request as a lactation room. Furthermore, a lactation room is required only where practical; therefore, a facility may choose not to create one if it will incur significant costs in doing so.

The bill provides for two one-time costs for the DOH: 1) the creation and distribution of an informational sign, as described in the bill; and 2) the establishment of a publicly posted list of facilities with lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions. Annual expenses associated with this bill include the issuing of an annual report, as outlined in the bill, by the DOE. It may be possible for the DOE to gather the data required within the report using an existing system, thereby minimizing costs.

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE**  
**SENATE, No. 1735**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**218th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: JUNE 12, 2018

**SUMMARY**

- Synopsis:** Requires certain public facilities and offices to provide on-site lactation room; DOH to provide information about lactation room availability; and DOE to provide information on lactation policies in schools.
- Type of Impact:** Indeterminate Expenditure Increase; General Fund.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Health; Department of Education; Department of Human Services; Department of Labor and Workforce Development; Department of Children and Families; certain local units.

**Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<b><u>Annual</u></b>
<b>State Cost</b>	Indeterminate increase.
<b>Local Cost</b>	Indeterminate increase.

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes the bill may increase State costs incurred by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Education (DOE) in fulfilling certain administrative and reporting requirements of the bill. However, without information from the Executive, the OLS cannot quantify these costs
- The OLS predicts that most facilities required to make a lactation room available under the bill will not incur any expense in fulfilling this provision. It is likely that any costs incurred by these State and local entities due to this provision will be insignificant.

**BILL DESCRIPTION**

This bill would require every health care facility; federally qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center; One-Stop Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care agency

contracted by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site services.

The bill would require the DOH to create signage that: contains information about breast feeding; affirms a mother's right to nurse in public; and indicates that lactation rooms are being made available for the privacy and comfort of nursing mothers, pursuant to the bill's provisions. Such signage is to be distributed directly to the various facilities identified in the bill, and is also to be posted, in a printable format, on the department's Internet website.

No later than one year after the bill's effective date, the DOH would be required to establish, and post at a publicly accessible location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions. Thereafter, the DOH would be required to make regular updates to the list, as may be necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms in the State.

The bill would additionally require the DOE to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the lactation-related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to: summarize the applicable policies in this area; indicate the number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the preceding school year. Each report would be posted at a publicly-accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities that is posted on the DOH website.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The OLS concludes the bill may increase State costs incurred by the DOH and the DOE in fulfilling certain administrative and reporting requirements of the bill. However, without information from the Executive, the OLS cannot quantify these costs.

The bill provides for two one-time costs for the DOH: 1) the creation and distribution of an informational sign, as described in the bill; and 2) the establishment of a publicly posted list of facilities with lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions. The ongoing maintenance of the lactation room list to reflect the most up-to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms could likely be performed at a marginal cost to the department's current operating budget.

Annual expenses associated with this bill include the issuing of an annual report, as outlined in the bill, by the DOE. It may be possible for the DOE to gather the data required within the report using an existing system, thereby minimizing costs.

The OLS predicts that most facilities required to make a lactation room available under the bill will not incur any expense in fulfilling this provision. It is likely that any costs incurred by these State and local entities due to this provision will be insignificant. Under the bill, a lactation room means a sanitary room, other than a restroom, which can be used by a mother to breast feed her baby or express milk in private, and which includes an electrical outlet, a chair, and nearby access to

running water. Based upon this definition, the OLS concludes that most facilities will not need to create a lactation room, but instead designate an existing space that meets the bill's definition and that can be available upon request as a lactation room. Furthermore, under the bill, a lactation room is required only where practical; therefore, a facility may choose not to create one if it will incur significant costs in doing so.

The OLS notes that P.L.2017, c.263, approved January 8, 2018, provides that breastfeeding is a protected act under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.). Under the law, employers must provide a private room for women to express milk or breastfeed, and allow breaks during the day for such purposes. The federal 2010 "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act," Pub. L. 111-148, provides similar protections to breast-feeding mothers, but only applies to employers with 50 or more workers. It is possible, therefore, that facilities under the bill required to make a lactation room available to consumers may have already done so for their employees, in compliance with these existing laws.

*Section: Human Services*

*Analyst: Sarah Schmidt  
Associate Research Analyst*

*Approved: Frank W. Haines III  
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1663

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA**

**District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires certain public facilities and offices to provide on-site lactation room; DOH to provide information about lactation room availability; and DOE to provide information on lactation policies in schools.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/22/2018)**

1 AN ACT concerning lactation rooms and policies 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. As used in this act:

8 “Department” means the Department of Health.

9 “Health care facility” means a health care facility that is licensed  
10 by the department pursuant to the “Health Care Facilities Planning  
11 Act,” P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.).

12 “Lactation room” means a sanitary room, other than a restroom,  
13 which can be used by a mother to breast feed her baby or express  
14 milk in private, and which includes an electrical outlet, a chair, and  
15 nearby access to running water.

16 “Medical Assistance Customer Center” means a community-  
17 based office that is operated by the Division of Medical Assistance  
18 and Health Services in the Department of Human Services.

19 “One-Stop Career Center” means the same as that term is defined  
20 by section 3 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-3).

21

22 2. a. Every health care facility; federally qualified health  
23 center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical  
24 Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop Career Center  
25 operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and  
26 Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or  
27 under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and  
28 Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care  
29 services agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and  
30 Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and  
31 Permanency, shall, where practicable, make at least one lactation  
32 room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site  
33 services. The presence of any such lactation room shall not  
34 abrogate or otherwise limit the mother’s right to breast feed her  
35 baby in public, as provided by section 2 of P.L.1997, c.101  
36 (C.26:4B-4).

37 b. The department shall create signage that: (1) contains  
38 information about breast feeding; (2) affirms a mother’s right to  
39 nurse in public, as provided by section 2 of P.L.1997, c.101  
40 (C.26:4B-4); and (3) indicates that lactation rooms are being made  
41 available for the privacy and comfort of nursing mothers, pursuant  
42 to this act. Such signage shall be distributed directly to the various  
43 facilities identified in subsection a. of this section, and shall  
44 additionally be posted, in a printable format, on the department’s  
45 Internet website. A facility that is required to provide a lactation  
46 room pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall display the  
47 signage prepared under this subsection in a clear and conspicuous

1 manner in the facility's public waiting room, as well as in any  
2 lactation room that is made available pursuant to this act.

3 c. No later than one year after the effective date of this act, the  
4 department shall establish, and shall post at a publicly accessible  
5 location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made  
6 lactation rooms available pursuant to this section. Thereafter, the  
7 department shall make regular updates to the list, as may be  
8 necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date information  
9 on the availability of lactation rooms in the State. The list  
10 established pursuant to this subsection shall additionally include a  
11 hyperlink to the reports on school lactation-related policies that  
12 have been posted on the Department of Education website in  
13 accordance with the provisions of section 3 of this act.

14 d. The department may adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to  
15 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1  
16 et seq.), to implement the provisions of this section, including rules  
17 and regulations that establish guidelines for the location and  
18 placement of lactation rooms within a facility, and rules and  
19 regulations that establish training requirements for staff who are  
20 employed at a facility where a lactation room is required.

21  
22 3. a. Within one year following the effective date of this act,  
23 and on an annual basis thereafter, the Department of Education shall  
24 evaluate, and report to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of  
25 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, on the lactation-  
26 related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges,  
27 and universities in the State.

28 b. Each report submitted pursuant to this section shall: (1)  
29 summarize the applicable policies in this area; (2) indicate the  
30 number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a  
31 designated lactation room; and (3) indicate the manner in which  
32 such policies were communicated to students, parents, and  
33 guardians during the preceding school year.

34 c. Each report submitted pursuant to this section shall be  
35 posted at a publicly-accessible location on the Department of  
36 Education's Internet website.

37  
38 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

39

40

41

#### STATEMENT

42

43 This bill would require every health care facility; federally  
44 qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or  
45 agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop  
46 Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the  
47 Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency  
48 or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of



1 Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children  
2 and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child  
3 Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child  
4 Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one  
5 lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is  
6 utilizing on-site services. The presence of any such lactation room  
7 would not abrogate or otherwise limit the mother's right to breast  
8 feed her baby in public, as provided by existing law.

9 The bill would require the Department of Health (DOH) to create  
10 signage that: contains information about breast feeding; affirms a  
11 mother's right to nurse in public; and indicates that lactation rooms  
12 are being made available for the privacy and comfort of nursing  
13 mothers, pursuant to the bill's provisions. Such signage is to be  
14 distributed directly to the various facilities identified in the bill, and  
15 is also to be posted, in a printable format, on the department's  
16 Internet website. A facility that is required to provide a lactation  
17 room pursuant to the bill's provisions would be required to display  
18 the prepared signage in a clear and conspicuous manner in the  
19 facility's public waiting room, as well as in any lactation room that  
20 is made available.

21 No later than one year after the bill's effective date, the DOH  
22 would be required to establish, and post at a publicly accessible  
23 location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made  
24 lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions.  
25 Thereafter, the DOH would be required to make regular updates to  
26 the list, as may be necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-  
27 to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms in the  
28 State.

29 The bill would additionally require the Department of Education  
30 (DOE) to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the  
31 lactation-related policies that have been implemented at schools,  
32 colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to:  
33 summarize the applicable policies in this area; indicate the number  
34 and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated  
35 lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were  
36 communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the  
37 preceding school year. Each report would be posted at a publicly-  
38 accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink  
39 to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities  
40 that is posted on the DOH website.

# ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY, No. 1663

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1663.

This bill would require every health care facility; federally qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site services. The presence of any such lactation room would not abrogate or otherwise limit the mother's right to breast feed her baby in public, as provided by existing law.

The bill would require the Department of Health (DOH) to create signage that: contains information about breast feeding; affirms a mother's right to nurse in public; and indicates that lactation rooms are being made available for the privacy and comfort of nursing mothers, pursuant to the bill's provisions. Such signage is to be distributed directly to the various facilities identified in the bill, and is also to be posted, in a printable format, on the department's Internet website. A facility that is required to provide a lactation room pursuant to the bill's provisions would be required to display the prepared signage in a clear and conspicuous manner in the facility's public waiting room, as well as in any lactation room that is made available.

No later than one year after the bill's effective date, the DOH would be required to establish, and post at a publicly accessible location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions. Thereafter, the DOH would be required to make regular updates to the list, as may be necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms in the State.

The bill would additionally require the Department of Education (DOE) to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the

lactation-related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to: summarize the applicable policies in this area; indicate the number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the preceding school year. Each report would be posted at a publicly-accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities that is posted on the DOH website.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2018-2019 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 1663 is identical to Senate Bill No. 1735 which was reported by the committee on this date.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1663**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 20, 2019

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1663.

This bill would require every health care facility; federally qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center (MACC); One-Stop Career Center operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site services. The presence of any such lactation room would not abrogate or otherwise limit the mother's right to breast feed her baby in public, as provided by existing law.

The bill would require the Department of Health (DOH) to create signage that: contains information about breast feeding; affirms a mother's right to nurse in public; and indicates that lactation rooms are being made available for the privacy and comfort of nursing mothers, pursuant to the bill's provisions. Such signage is to be distributed directly to the various facilities identified in the bill, and is also to be posted, in a printable format, on the department's Internet website. A facility that is required to provide a lactation room pursuant to the bill's provisions would be required to display the prepared signage in a clear and conspicuous manner in the facility's public waiting room, as well as in any lactation room that is made available.

No later than one year after the bill's effective date, the DOH would be required to establish, and post at a publicly accessible location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions. Thereafter, the DOH would be required to make regular updates to the list, as may be necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms in the State.

The bill would additionally require the Department of Education (DOE) to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the

lactation-related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to: summarize the applicable policies in this area; indicate the number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the preceding school year. Each report would be posted at a publicly-accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities that is posted on the DOH website.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 1663 is identical to Senate Bill No. 1735 which was reported by the committee on this date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes the bill may potentially increase annual State costs incurred by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Education (DOE) by indeterminate amounts in fulfilling certain administrative and reporting requirements of the bill. However, without information from the Executive, the OLS cannot quantify these costs.

The OLS predicts that most state and local facilities required to make a lactation room available under the bill may not incur any significant one-time expenses in fulfilling this provision due to already having a designated space for breastfeeding mothers as required under other State and federal law. Moreover, any one-time expenses associated with the creation and distribution of informational signs by the State and the establishment of a publicly posted list of facilities with lactation rooms are likely to be marginal

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE**  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 1663**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**218th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: MAY 23, 2019

**SUMMARY**

- Synopsis:** Requires certain public facilities and offices to provide on-site lactation room; DOH to provide information about lactation room availability; and DOE to provide information on lactation policies in schools.
- Type of Impact:** Potential one-time State and local government expenditure increases; Potential annual State expenditure increase.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Health; Department of Education; Department of Human Services; Department of Labor and Workforce Development; Department of Children and Families; certain local units.

**Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<b><u>Year 1</u></b>	<b><u>Year 2 and Thereafter</u></b>
<b>State Cost Increase</b>	Indeterminate	Indeterminate
<b>Local Cost Increase</b>	Indeterminate	-----

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes the bill may potentially increase annual State costs incurred by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Education (DOE) by indeterminate amounts in fulfilling certain administrative and reporting requirements of the bill. However, without information from the Executive, the OLS cannot quantify these costs.
- The OLS predicts that most state and local facilities required to make a lactation room available under the bill may not incur any significant one-time expenses in fulfilling this provision due to already having a designated space for breastfeeding mothers as required under other State and federal law. Moreover, any one-time expenses associated with the creation and distribution of informational signs by the State and the establishment of a publicly posted list of facilities with lactation rooms are likely to be marginal.

**BILL DESCRIPTION**

This bill would require every health care facility; federally qualified health center; county or municipal welfare office or agency; Medical Assistance Customer Center; One-Stop Career

Center operated by, or under the authority of, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; adoption agency or center operated by, or under the authority of, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families; foster care agency contracted by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency; or local office of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, where practicable, to make at least one lactation room available, upon request, to any mother who is utilizing on-site services.

The bill would require the DOH to create signage that: contains information about breast feeding; affirms a mother's right to nurse in public; and indicates that lactation rooms are being made available for the privacy and comfort of nursing mothers, pursuant to the bill's provisions. Such signage is to be distributed directly to the various facilities identified in the bill, and is also to be posted, in a printable format, on the department's Internet website.

No later than one year after the bill's effective date, the DOH would be required to establish, and post at a publicly accessible location on its Internet website, a list of all facilities that have made lactation rooms available pursuant to the bill's provisions. Thereafter, the DOH would be required to make regular updates to the list, as may be necessary to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms in the State.

The bill would additionally require the DOE to annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the lactation-related policies that have been implemented at schools, colleges, and universities in the State. Each annual report is to: summarize the applicable policies in this area; indicate the number and percentage of policies that authorize access to a designated lactation room; and indicate the manner in which such policies were communicated to students, parents, and guardians during the preceding school year. Each report would be posted at a publicly-accessible location on the DOE's Internet website, and a hyperlink to the DOE reports would also be included in the list of facilities that is posted on the DOH website.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The OLS concludes the bill may increase annual State costs incurred by the DOH and the DOE in fulfilling certain administrative and reporting requirements of the bill. However, without information from the Executive, the OLS cannot quantify these costs.

The bill provides for two one-time costs for the DOH: 1) the creation and distribution of an informational sign; and 2) the establishment of a publicly posted list of facilities with lactation rooms available. The ongoing maintenance of the lactation room list to reflect the most up-to-date information on the availability of lactation rooms could likely be performed at a marginal annual cost to the department's current operating budget. Similarly, it may be possible for the DOE to gather the data for its required annual report using an existing system, thereby minimizing costs.

The OLS predicts that most facilities required to make a lactation room available under the bill will not incur any significant one-time expenses in making a lactation room available. Under the bill, a lactation room means a sanitary room, other than a restroom, which can be used by a mother to breast feed her baby or express milk in private, and which includes an electrical outlet, a

chair, and nearby access to running water. Based upon this definition, the OLS concludes that most facilities will not need to create a lactation room, but instead designate an existing space that meets the bill's definition and that can be available upon request as a lactation room. Furthermore, under the bill, a lactation room is required only where practicable; therefore, a facility may choose not to create one if it will incur significant costs in doing so.

The OLS notes that P.L.2017, c.263, approved January 8, 2018, provides that breastfeeding is a protected act under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.). Under the law, employers must provide a private room for women to express milk or breastfeed, and allow breaks during the day for such purposes. The federal 2010 "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act," Pub. L. 111-148, provides similar protections to breast-feeding mothers, but only applies to employers with 50 or more workers. It is possible, therefore, that facilities under the bill required to make a lactation room available to consumers may have already done so for their employees, in compliance with these existing laws.

*Section: Human Services*

*Analyst: Sarah Schmidt  
Senior Research Analyst*

*Approved: Frank W. Haines III  
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).



# Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Requiring Lactation Rooms in Certain Public Facilities

08/15/2019

**TRENTON** – Governor Phil Murphy today signed S1735, which requires certain public facilities and offices to provide on-site lactation rooms. Additionally, the legislation requires the New Jersey Department of Health to provide information about lactation room availability and the New Jersey Department of Education to provide information on lactation policies in schools.

“Building a stronger, fairer, and healthier New Jersey begins with unwavering support for our mothers and families, including providing access to private, clean, and safe spaces for nursing,” **said Governor Murphy**. “By signing this legislation, we are taking a critical step forward in breaking down barriers to breastfeeding and empowering New Jersey’s mothers.”

“By providing private and accessible space for nursing mothers, we are encouraging those who can breastfeed to do so as long as they can,” **said First Lady Tammy Murphy**. “This legislation continues to build on the Nurture NJ campaign efforts to ensure equitable maternal and infant care to all women and children.”

“Breastfeeding provides an excellent source of nutrition for infants, helps boost their immune systems to prevent illness, and strengthens the bonds between mothers and babies,” **said New Jersey Department of Health Acting Commissioner Judith Persichilli**. “This bill celebrates the benefits of breastfeeding by creating space for mothers to nurse. The Department of Health promotes breastfeeding and supports our working mothers with a half dozen lactation rooms.”

Institutions of learning should provide an inclusive environment for all staff and students,” **said New Jersey Department of Education Commissioner Dr. Lamont O. Repollet**. “To that end, we support the Governor’s efforts to ensure public facilities provide appropriate accommodations that affirm the rights and dignity of nursing mothers.”

“Women should have options for where to breastfeed, and today’s action will create better environments to support women’s choices,” **said New Jersey Human Services Commissioner Carole Johnson**. “I’m proud to stand with Governor Murphy, the First Lady and leaders of the New Jersey Legislature in taking another important step in helping families thrive in New Jersey.”

Primary sponsors of the legislation include Senators Loretta Weinberg and M. Teresa Ruiz and Assemblymembers Eliana Pintor Marin, Gabriela Mosquera, and Carol Murphy.

“Breast milk is best source of nutrition for an infant and offers a wide range of benefits to both the nursing mother and the newborn,” **said Senator Loretta Weinberg**. “Mothers who choose to breastfeed should be encouraged to do so regardless of where they are, and they should be offered accommodations that allow them to do so in private without fear of their privacy being invaded. This bill helps ensure safe spaces for women breastfeeding outside of the home.”

“By providing information on a woman’s right to breastfeed in public and creating a lactation room in certain buildings we can empower New Jersey mothers to feed their children as they see fit,” **said Senator M. Teresa Ruiz**. “Wherever they are, new mothers deserve a safe space where they can choose to nurse or express milk. Breast milk offers enormous health benefits to the development and growth of a child and we should encourage women who choose to nurse in any way that we can.”

“While women should be able to nurse their babies publicly, some women prefer to do it in a more quiet setting,” **said Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor Marin**. “This new law will provide women with the convenience of a private room at a public facility where they can nurse and still be able to accomplish their task.”

“The benefits of breastfeeding for babies and mothers are well documented. While some women are comfortable nursing in public, others are not,” **said Assemblywoman Gabriela Mosquera**. “This will provide a quiet place for mothers to nurse their babies while they take care of business.”

“New mothers shouldn’t have to worry about finding a place to privately breastfeed their babies while running errands or going about their day,” **said Assemblywoman Carol Murphy**. “The early days of motherhood are hard enough. This change in law will make those days a bit easier for nursing mothers.”