

26:5C-1 et al

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 26:5C-1 et al

(AIDS Assistance Act)

LAWS OF: 1984

CHAPTER: 126

Bill No: A321

Sponsor(s): Perun and others

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: Corrections, Health and Human Services

Senate: Institutions, Health and Welfare

Amended during passage: Yes

Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage:

Assembly: February 23, 1984

Senate: June 25, 1984

Date of Approval: August 8, 1984

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly Yes

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

See newspaper clipping file, "N.J.-Diseases-1984" in New Jersey Reference Section.n

8-8-84

[SECOND OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

## ASSEMBLY, No. 321

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1984 SESSION

By Assemblywoman PERUN, Assemblymen DORIA, SCHWARTZ,  
PATERNITI, PELLY, WATSON, NAPLES, CHARLES, HER-  
MAN, KARCHER, FELICE, BAER and MAZUR

AN ACT concerning the treatment and diagnosis of acquired immune  
deficiency syndrome and making an appropriation.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "AIDS  
2 Assistance Act."

1 2. The Legislature finds that:

2 a. The effective identification, diagnosis, care and treatment of  
3 persons who have contracted acquired immune deficiency syndrome,  
4 commonly known as "AIDS," is of paramount public importance;

5 b. AIDS is thought to be the result of a virus or other highly  
6 infectious agent which may be spread through bodily secretions,  
7 especially blood and semen, or through an as yet unidentified  
8 method of transmission;

9 c. The AIDS organism is responsible for the near total collapse  
10 of the body's immune system, resulting in the susceptibility to  
11 cancer and other fatal infections;

12 d. AIDS although first diagnosed in homosexual men is now  
13 striking so many groups such as drug users, hemophiliacs, persons  
14 who have received blood transfusions and Haitians, that its course  
15 is currently unpredictable;

16 e. The spread of AIDS may be impossible to stop because the  
17 AIDS organism can be dormant for months before it manifests

**EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill  
is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:**

**\*—Assembly committee amendments adopted February 6, 1984.**

**\*\*—Senate committee amendment adopted May 17, 1984.**

18 symptoms and because the incubation period ranges from six  
19 months to two years;

20 f. People who have already been infected might not be aware of  
21 their exposure and may unknowingly infect hundreds more in-  
22 dividuals;

23 g. Resultingly, the outbreak of AIDS has reached alarming  
24 proportions because of its highly contagious nature with New  
25 Jersey ranking fourth in the nation in the number of reported cases.

26 The Legislature further finds that researchers have no conclusive  
27 evidence regarding the detection, treatment, cure or prevention of  
28 AIDS; that many health care professionals are not yet familiar  
29 with the symptoms or treatment techniques of AIDS; that most  
30 victims are not aware that they have been exposed to AIDS and  
31 therefore, infect others; that, accordingly, the magnitude of the  
32 AIDS outbreak has not yet been realized.

33 Therefore, the Legislature declares that it is imperative that  
34 programs be established for diagnosing and treating persons who  
35 have been exposed to AIDS, referring AIDS victims and their  
36 families to sources of treatment and counseling, and providing an  
37 educational program to health care professionals to heighten their  
38 awareness of the latest diagnostic procedures and treatment. The  
39 Legislature further declares that a task force be established to  
40 coordinate the medical and social services needed by AIDS victims.

1 3. The Commissioner of the State Department of Health shall  
2 establish:

3 a. A program to educate the public \***[and health care profes-**  
4 **sionals about the diagnosis and treatment of AIDS. The program]**\*  
5 *\*which\** shall include a public information campaign encouraging  
6 persons who suspect exposure to AIDS to seek medical testing and  
7 counseling, and a Statewide telephone hotline to answer requests  
8 for information and referrals;

9 b. A **\*[public appeal campaign urging pharmaceutical companies,**  
10 **medical laboratories and health care facilities to volunteer any**  
11 **resources, products or services which may help to combat AIDS]**\*  
12 *\*program to educate health care professionals and others who are*  
13 *required to have contact with people who have contracted AIDS*  
14 *about the diagnosis and treatment of AIDS\*\****[, for which purpose**  
15 *the University of Medicine and Dentistry shall establish an "AIDS*  
16 *Education Center"* at its facility in Newark which, in coopera-  
17 *tion with the State Department of Health, shall provide confer-*  
18 *ences, symposia and continuing medical education programs on*  
19 *AIDS\****]**\*\* ; and

20 c. \***[Local]**\* *Departmental and local*\* support programs to  
21 provide early detection, counseling, *social services*,\* and referrals  
22 for those who suspect exposure to AIDS.

1 4. The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey shall  
2 \***[establish the "AIDS Task Force Center"** at its facility in  
3 Newark. The "AIDS Task Force Center" shall]\*, in coordination  
4 with the State Department of Health, serve as a \***[technical**  
5 **advisory]**\* resource center and may offer diagnostic procedures,  
6 medical treatment, counseling, as well as any other services that  
7 may be necessary to assist AIDS victims and their families.

1 5. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Depart-  
2 ment of Health \$75,000.00 to carry out the provisions of this act.

1 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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*SPONSORS'* STATEMENT

This bill establishes a program in the Department of Health to educate the public and health care professionals about the diagnosis and treatment of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and to promote efforts to combat AIDS.

The bill requires the Commissioner of Health to: set up a public information campaign and a Statewide telephone hotline to provide information and referrals; establish a public appeal campaign to promote voluntary efforts by pharmaceutical companies, medical laboratories and health care facilities; and develop local support programs to provide early detection, counseling and referrals.

The bill also requires the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Newark to establish an "AIDS Task Force Center" which would coordinate its efforts with the Department of Health to provide technical advice, diagnosis, treatment and counseling.

The bill appropriates \$75,000.00 to the Department of Health to carry out the AIDS program.

*A321 (1984)*

ASSEMBLY CORRECTIONS, HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 321**

with Assembly committee amendments

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: FEBRUARY 6, 1984

The purpose of this bill is to establish a program within the Department of Health to educate the public and health care professionals about the diagnosis and treatment of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and promote efforts to combat AIDS.

The bill requires the Commissioner of Health to set up a public information campaign and a Statewide telephone hotline to provide information and referrals, and to develop support programs to provide early detection, counseling and referrals.

The bill appropriates \$75,000.00 to the Department of Health and, as amended by the committee, provides for the establishment of an "AIDS Education Center" at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) in Newark. The center would provide conferences, symposia, and continuing medical education programs with the Department of Health. The committee deleted the provision establishing an "AIDS Task Force Center" at UMDNJ in Newark while retaining language that authorizes the university to serve as a resource center to assist AIDS victims and their families.

The committee further amended the bill to delete the requirement for a public appeal campaign by the Commissioner of Health to urge pharmaceutical companies, medical laboratories and health care facilities to volunteer resources, products or services to combat AIDS. The Department of Health contends that this kind of appeal would have little impact on the effort to deal with AIDS.

SENATE INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND WELFARE  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 321**

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]  
with Senate committee amendments

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: MAY 17, 1984

As amended by committee, this bill establishes a program in the Department of Health to educate the public and health care professionals about the diagnosis and treatment of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and to promote efforts to combat AIDS.

The bill requires the Commissioner of Health to: set up a public information campaign and a Statewide telephone hotline to provide information and referrals; establish a program to educate health care professionals and others who come into contact with persons who have AIDS about the diagnosis and treatment of AIDS; and develop departmental and local support programs to provide early detection, counseling, social services and referrals to persons who suspect exposure to AIDS.

The bill also requires the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in cooperation with the Department of Health to serve as a resource center and offer diagnostic procedures, medical treatment and other services to assist persons with AIDS and their families. The bill appropriates \$75,000.00 to the Department of Health to carry out the AIDS program.

Committee amendments were adopted at the request of the sponsor. The amendments delete the provision that the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey establish an "AIDS Education Center."