

# 17B:30-35

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

Compiled by the NJ State Law Library

**LAWS OF:** 2001                    **CHAPTER:** 200  
**NJSA:** 17B:30-35            (Uniform prescription information card)  
**BILL NO:** S1330            (Substituted for A2377)

**SPONSOR(S):** Littell and Sinagra

**DATE INTRODUCED:** May 22, 2000

**COMMITTEE:**            **ASSEMBLY:** ----  
**SENATE:** Health; Budget

**AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:** Yes

**DATE OF PASSAGE:**            **ASSEMBLY:** June 28, 2001  
**SENATE:** June 21, 2001

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** August 8, 2001

### FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

**FINAL TEXT OF BILL** (Senate Committee Substitute (1<sup>st</sup> reprint))

**S1330**

<b>SPONSORS STATEMENT:</b> (Begins on page 5 of original bill)	Yes
<b>COMMITTEE STATEMENT:</b>	<b>ASSEMBLY:</b> No
	<b>SENATE:</b> Yes 6-19-2000 (Health) 3-15-2001 (Budget)
<b>FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:</b>	Yes
<b>LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:</b>	No
<b>FIRST REPRINT:</b>	Yes

**A2377**

**SPONSORS STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 5 of original bill) Yes  
Bill and Sponsors Statement identical to S1330

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:** **ASSEMBLY:** Yes  
Identical to Senate Health statement for S1330

**SENATE:** No

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS:** Yes 6-26-2000  
12-11-2000  
6-14-2001

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** No

**THIRD REPRINT:** Yes

**VETO MESSAGE:** No

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

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government

Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

**REPORTS:** No

**HEARINGS:** No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** No

**SENATE, No. 1330**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED MAY 22, 2000

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator ROBERT E. LITTELL**

**District 24 (Sussex, Hunterdon and Morris)**

**Senator JACK SINAGRA**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires use of uniform prescription drug information card by all prescription drug plans

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning uniform prescription drug information cards and  
2 supplementing various parts of statutory law.

3

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

6

7 1. A hospital service corporation which provides hospital or  
8 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
9 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
10 uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant to  
11 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
12 bill) under every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed  
13 in this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
14 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
15 of this act. The information card shall be issued to each current  
16 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
17 upon any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
18 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
19 Legislature as this bill).

20

21 2. A medical service corporation which provides hospital or  
22 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
23 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
24 uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant to  
25 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
26 bill) under every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed  
27 in this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
28 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
29 of this act. The information card shall be issued to each current  
30 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
31 upon any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
32 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
33 Legislature as this bill).

34

35 3. A health service corporation which provides hospital or medical  
36 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
37 drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a uniform  
38 prescription drug information card as established pursuant to section  
39 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)  
40 under every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in  
41 this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
42 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
43 of this act. The information card shall be issued to each current  
44 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
45 upon any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
46 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
47 Legislature as this bill).

1 4. A group health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
2 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
3 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a uniform prescription  
4 drug information card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
5 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
6 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
7 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
8 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act.  
9 The information card shall be issued to each current insured and to  
10 each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in  
11 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
12 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
13

14 5. An individual health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
15 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
16 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a uniform prescription  
17 drug information card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
18 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
19 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
20 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
21 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act. The  
22 information card shall be issued to each current insured and to each  
23 new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in the  
24 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
25 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
26

27 6. A certificate of authority to establish and operate a health  
28 maintenance organization in this State shall not be issued or continued  
29 on or after the effective date of this act for a health maintenance  
30 organization which provides health care services for prescription drugs  
31 under a contract, unless the health maintenance organization issues to  
32 its enrollees a uniform prescription drug information card as  
33 established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
34 before the Legislature as this bill) under every such health maintenance  
35 organization contract. The information card shall be issued to each  
36 current enrollee and to each new enrollee upon enrollment, and  
37 reissued upon any change in the requirements pertaining to the form  
38 of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
39 before the Legislature as this bill).  
40

41 7. Effective immediately for an individual health benefits plan  
42 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
43 12-month anniversary date of an individual health benefits plan in  
44 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the individual health  
45 benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.161  
46 (C.17B:27A-4) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the

1 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
2 uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant to  
3 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
4 bill) under every such health benefits plan. The information card shall  
5 be issued to each current covered person and to new covered persons  
6 upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in the requirements  
7 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of  
8 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

9  
10 8. Effective immediately for a small employer health benefits plan  
11 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
12 12-month anniversary date of a small employer health benefits plan in  
13 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the small employer  
14 health benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.162  
15 (C.17B:27A-19) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the  
16 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
17 uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant to  
18 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
19 bill) under every such health benefits plan. The information card shall  
20 be issued to each current covered person and to each new covered  
21 person upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in the  
22 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
23 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

24  
25 9. A prepaid prescription service organization which provides  
26 benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs  
27 under a contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
28 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
29 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act,  
30 shall issue to its enrollees a uniform prescription drug information card  
31 as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
32 before the Legislature as this bill) under every such contract. The  
33 information card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to each  
34 new enrollee upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in the  
35 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
36 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

37  
38 10. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall issue to  
39 all persons eligible for the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and  
40 Disabled" program pursuant to P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-20 et seq.)  
41 a uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant  
42 to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as  
43 this bill). The information card shall be issued to each current eligible  
44 person and to each new eligible person upon enrollment in the  
45 program, and reissued upon any change in the requirements pertaining  
46 to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )  
47 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

1 11. The Commissioner of Human Services shall issue to all  
2 recipients of the Medicaid program pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413  
3 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.) a uniform prescription drug information card as  
4 established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
5 before the Legislature as this bill). The information card shall be issued  
6 to each current recipient and to each new recipient upon enrollment in  
7 the program, and reissued upon any change in the requirements  
8 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. ,  
9 c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

10  
11 12. The State Health Benefits Commission shall issue to all persons  
12 enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program a uniform prescription  
13 drug information card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
14 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
15 information card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to each  
16 new enrollee upon enrollment in the program, and reissued upon any  
17 change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant  
18 to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as  
19 this bill).

20  
21 13. a. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall establish  
22 by regulation a uniform prescription drug information card for use by  
23 all hospital, medical and health service corporations, individual, small  
24 employer and large group insurers, health maintenance organizations  
25 and prepaid prescription plan organizations that are authorized to issue  
26 contracts, policies or health benefits plans in the State that provide  
27 prescription drug benefits, and by the State Medicaid and  
28 Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled programs and the  
29 State Health Benefits Commission pursuant to the provisions of  
30 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

31 The card shall conform to a national format as determined by the  
32 commissioner.

33 b. The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to  
34 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
35 seq.) to carry out the purposes of this act.

36  
37 14. This act shall take effect on the 90th day following enactment.  
38  
39

40 STATEMENT  
41

42 This bill requires hospital, medical and health service corporations,  
43 individual, small employer and large group insurers, health  
44 maintenance organizations and prepaid prescription plan organizations  
45 that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
46 prescription drugs to issue a uniform prescription drug information

**S1330 LITTELL, SINAGRA**

6

1 card as established by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance.  
2 The bill also extends this requirement for a uniform prescription drug  
3 information card to the State-administered Medicaid, Pharmaceutical  
4 Assistance to the Aged and Disabled and State Health Benefits  
5 programs. The information card shall be issued to each person  
6 currently covered under a prescription drug plan or State program and  
7 upon enrollment to new enrollees, and reissued upon any change in the  
8 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to this bill.

9 The purpose of this bill is to decrease administrative burdens for  
10 pharmacies by eliminating unnecessary paperwork and streamlining  
11 the dispensing of prescription drugs and devices, the costs for which  
12 are covered under third party prescription plans, and thereby improve  
13 care to patients by reducing their waiting times to have prescriptions  
14 filled.



# SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 1330**

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 19, 2000

The Senate Health Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1330.

As amended by the committee, this bill requires hospital, medical and health service corporations, individual, small employer and large group insurers, health maintenance organizations and prepaid prescription plan organizations that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs to issue a standardized prescription benefits identification card as established by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance. The bill also extends this requirement for a standardized prescription benefits identification card to the State-administered Medicaid, Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled and State Health Benefits programs. The card shall be issued to each person currently covered under a prescription drug plan or State program, and upon enrollment to new insureds, and reissued upon any change in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to this bill.

The bill takes effect on January 1, 2001.

The committee amendments:

- C substitute the term "standardized prescription benefits identification card" for "uniform prescription drug information card";
- C require that each such card issued to a covered person be reissued upon any change in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to this bill;
- C require that the card conform to standards adopted by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs or any other nationally accepted standards, as determined by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance; and
- C change the effective date from the 90th day following enactment to January 1, 2001.

These amendments are designed to conform this bill with similar legislation that has been enacted in other states.

The purpose of this bill is to decrease administrative burdens for pharmacies by eliminating unnecessary paperwork and streamlining the dispensing of prescription drugs and devices, the costs for which are covered under third party prescription plans, and thereby improve care to patients by reducing their waiting times to have prescriptions filled.

This bill is similar to Assembly Bill No. 2377 (Felice/Vandervalk) which is pending before the Assembly Health Committee.

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR **SENATE, No. 1330**

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 15, 2001

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably a committee substitute for Senate Bill No. 1330.

This committee substitute requires providers of most health benefits plans that include prescription drug coverage to issue to their insureds an identification card containing standardized pharmacy information.

*Providers subject to the bill.* The bill would apply to any health insurance carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other health benefits plan provider, or its agents (including any pharmacy benefits manager or third party administrator for a self-insured health benefits plan), that provides, administers or manages coverage for prescription drugs provided on an outpatient basis. The bill explicitly would not apply to providers of Medicaid managed care plans, Medicare supplemental insurance, disability income and long-term care plans, hospitality indemnity insurance, and various other plans offering restricted health benefit coverage.

*Information to be included on the card.* The bill stipulates that the card shall comply with the standards set forth in the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs Pharmacy ID Card Implementation Guide in effect at the time of card issuance or, at a minimum, contain the following information:

- (1) the insured's identification number;
- (2) the insured's name or, if the card is issued for another person included under the primary insured's coverage, that person's name;
- (3) if required for proper claims adjudication,
  - < the name and identification number of the health benefits plan,
  - < the American National Standards Institute International Identification Number assigned to the plan's administrator or pharmacy benefits manager,
  - < the processor control number, and
  - < the insured's group number;
- (4) the telephone number that providers may call for pharmacy benefits assistance; and
- (5) any other information needed for proper claims adjudication, except for information required to be provided on the prescription.

*Exceptions.* The bill provides that a plan provider need not issue a special pharmacy identification card to an insured who has already been issued a general plan member identification card containing the information required under the bill. Also, it allows providers to use data elements that are required by State or federal regulations adopted under the federal "Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996" ("HIPAA") in place of the information required under the bill.

*Frequency of card issuance.* The bill directs a plan provider to issue to each primary insured a new pharmacy identification card within 180 days after a change in the insured's coverage that changes the information required to be included on the card, if necessary for proper claims adjudication. The plan provider would not, however, have to issue a new card more than once in a calendar year.

The bill is to take effect on the 180th day after enactment and apply to policies or contracts issued or renewed after that date.

#### COMPARISON OF SUBSTITUTE

The principal differences between the substitute bill and the bill as referred to the committee consist of (1) the exemption of Medicaid plans from coverage under the legislation, (2) the allowance, with respect to the elements required on a prescription ID card, of specific alternatives to conforming with the standards of the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (viz, use of the minimum information itemized in the substitute or use of elements prescribed under HIPAA), and (3) the limitation on the frequency of compulsory card updates to once a year.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

This bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact.

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 1330**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED MAY 22, 2000

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator ROBERT E. LITTELL**

**District 24 (Sussex, Hunterdon and Morris)**

**Senator JACK SINAGRA**

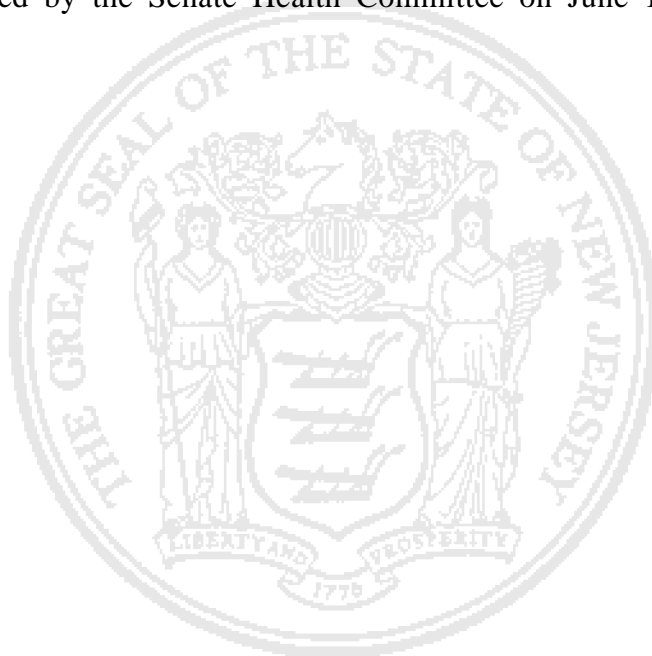
**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires use of standardized prescription benefits identification card by all prescription drug plans

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Health Committee on June 19, 2000, with amendments.



1 AN ACT concerning <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug  
2 information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> cards  
3 and supplementing various parts of statutory law.  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:  
7

8 1. A hospital service corporation which provides hospital or  
9 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
10 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
11 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
12 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
13 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
14 every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this  
15 State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
16 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
17 of this act. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current  
18 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
19 upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the  
20 card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the  
21 card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
22 Legislature as this bill).  
23

24 2. A medical service corporation which provides hospital or  
25 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
26 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
27 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
28 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
29 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
30 every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this  
31 State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
32 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
33 of this act. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current  
34 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
35 upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the  
36 card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the  
37 card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
38 Legislature as this bill).  
39

40 3. A health service corporation which provides hospital or medical  
41 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
42 drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a <sup>1</sup>[uniform

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> Senate SHH committee amendments adopted June 19, 2000.

1 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
2 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c.  
3 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under every such  
4 contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or  
5 approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of  
6 Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act. The  
7 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current subscriber and to  
8 each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change  
9 <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup>  
10 in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to  
11 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
12 bill).

13

14 4. A group health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
15 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
16 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
17 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
18 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c.  
19 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under every such  
20 policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or  
21 approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of  
22 Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act. The  
23 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current insured and to  
24 each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
25 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
26 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
27 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

28

29 5. An individual health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
30 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
31 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
32 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
33 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c.  
34 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under every such  
35 policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or  
36 approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of  
37 Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act. The  
38 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current insured and to  
39 each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
40 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
41 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
42 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

43

44 6. A certificate of authority to establish and operate a health  
45 maintenance organization in this State shall not be issued or continued  
46 on or after the effective date of this act for a health maintenance

1 organization which provides health care services for prescription drugs  
2 under a contract, unless the health maintenance organization issues to  
3 its enrollees a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized  
4 prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to  
5 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
6 bill) under every such health maintenance organization contract. The  
7 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
8 each new enrollee upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
9 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
10 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
11 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
12

13 7. Effective immediately for an individual health benefits plan  
14 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
15 12-month anniversary date of an individual health benefits plan in  
16 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the individual health  
17 benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.161  
18 (C.17B:27A-4) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the  
19 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
20 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
21 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
22 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
23 every such health benefits plan. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be  
24 issued to each current covered person and to new covered persons  
25 upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that  
26 affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the  
27 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
28 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
29

30 8. Effective immediately for a small employer health benefits plan  
31 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
32 12-month anniversary date of a small employer health benefits plan in  
33 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the small employer  
34 health benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.162  
35 (C.17B:27A-19) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the  
36 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
37 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
38 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
39 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
40 every such health benefits plan. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be  
41 issued to each current covered person and to each new covered  
42 person upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage  
43 that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the  
44 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
45 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).



1 9. A prepaid prescription service organization which provides  
2 benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs  
3 under a contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
4 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
5 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act,  
6 shall issue to its enrollees a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information]  
7 standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established  
8 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
9 Legislature as this bill) under every such contract. The  
10 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
11 each new enrollee upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
12 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup>  
13 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
14 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
15

16 10. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall issue to  
17 all persons eligible for the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and  
18 Disabled" program pursuant to P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-20 et seq.)  
19 a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
20 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
21 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
22 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current eligible person  
23 and to each new eligible person upon enrollment in the program, and  
24 reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements  
25 on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form  
26 of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
27 before the Legislature as this bill).  
28

29 11. The Commissioner of Human Services shall issue to all  
30 recipients of the Medicaid program pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413  
31 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.) a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information]  
32 standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established  
33 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
34 Legislature as this bill). The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to  
35 each current recipient and to each new recipient upon enrollment in the  
36 program, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the  
37 data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements  
38 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. ,  
39 c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
40

41 12. The State Health Benefits Commission shall issue to all persons  
42 enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription  
43 drug information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup>  
44 card as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c.  
45 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill). The

1 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
2 each new enrollee upon enrollment in the program, and reissued upon  
3 any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card and  
4 or change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
5 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
6 Legislature as this bill).

7  
8 13. a. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall establish  
9 by regulation a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized  
10 prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card for use by all hospital,  
11 medical and health service corporations, individual, small employer  
12 and large group insurers, health maintenance organizations and prepaid  
13 prescription plan organizations that are authorized to issue contracts,  
14 policies or health benefits plans in the State that provide prescription  
15 drug benefits, and by the State Medicaid and Pharmaceutical  
16 Assistance to the Aged and Disabled programs and the State Health  
17 Benefits Commission pursuant to the provisions of P.L. , c.  
18 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

19 The card shall conform to <sup>1</sup>[a national format]standards adopted  
20 by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs or any other  
21 nationally accepted standards,<sup>1</sup> as determined by the commissioner.

22 b. The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to  
23 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
24 seq.) to carry out the purposes of this act.

25  
26 14. This act shall take effect on <sup>1</sup>[the 90th day following  
27 enactment] January 1, 2001<sup>1</sup>.

**SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE, No. 1330**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
209th LEGISLATURE**

ADOPTED MARCH 15, 2001

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator ROBERT E. LITTELL**

**District 24 (Sussex, Hunterdon and Morris)**

**Senator JACK SINAGRA**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires health insurers that provide prescription drug coverage to issue standardized pharmacy identification cards.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Substitute as adopted by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.



1 AN ACT concerning standardized pharmacy identification cards and  
2 supplementing Title 17B of the New Jersey 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 "Carrier" means an insurance company, health service corporation,  
9 hospital service corporation, medical service corporation or health  
10 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans in  
11 this State.

12 "Health benefits plan" means: a health benefits plan that is  
13 delivered or issued for delivery in this State by or through a carrier; a  
14 plan provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement; or a plan  
15 provided by another benefit arrangement, to the extent permitted by  
16 the "Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-  
17 406 (29 U.S.C. s.1001 et seq.), or by any waiver of or other exception  
18 to that act provided under federal law or regulation. "Health benefits  
19 plan" shall not include accident-only insurance; credit accident and  
20 health insurance; Medicare supplement insurance; a Medicaid managed  
21 care plan; disability income insurance; long-term care insurance;  
22 specified disease insurance; dental or vision care plan; hospital  
23 indemnity insurance; coverage issued as a supplement to liability  
24 insurance; medical payments under automobile or homeowners  
25 insurance; or insurance under which benefits are payable without  
26 regard to fault and that are statutorily required to be included in a  
27 liability policy or equivalent self-insurance program.

28  
29 2. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
30 health benefits plan provider, or its agents, contractors or  
31 administrators, including but not limited to a pharmacy benefits  
32 manager or third party administrator for a self-insured health benefits  
33 plan, that provides, administers or manages coverage for prescription  
34 drugs provided on an outpatient basis, shall issue or require the  
35 issuance to the primary insured of a card or other technology that  
36 includes standardized pharmacy identification information.

37 b. The card shall comply with the standards set forth in the  
38 National Council for Prescription Drug Programs Pharmacy ID Card  
39 Implementation Guide in effect at the time of card issuance, or, at a  
40 minimum, contain the following information:

41 (1) the name and identification number of the health benefits plan,  
42 when required for proper claims adjudication;

43 (2) the American National Standards Institute International  
44 Identification Number assigned to the administrator or pharmacy  
45 benefits manager of the health benefits plan, labeled as RxBIN, when  
46 required for proper claims adjudication;

47 (3) the processor control number, labeled as RxPCN, when  
48 required for proper claims adjudication;

1 (4) the insured's group number, labeled as RxGRP, when required  
2 for proper claims adjudication;

3 (5) the insured's identification number;

4 (6) the insured's name; except that, if a separate card is issued for  
5 another person included under the primary insured's coverage, the  
6 name of the covered person to whom the card is issued may be listed  
7 instead of the name of the primary insured;

8 (7) the telephone number that providers may call for pharmacy  
9 benefits assistance; and

10 (8) any other information necessary for proper claims adjudication,  
11 except for information provided on the prescription as required by law  
12 or regulation.

13

14 3. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
15 health benefits plan provider shall not be required to issue a pharmacy  
16 identification card separate from another identification card issued to  
17 an insured under a health benefits plan if the identification card  
18 contains the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.

19 b. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
20 health benefits plan provider may use data elements that are required  
21 by State or federal regulations adopted pursuant to the "Health  
22 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-191,  
23 in place of the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.

24

25 4. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
26 health benefits plan provider shall provide each primary insured with  
27 a new pharmacy identification card within a reasonable time, not to  
28 exceed 180 days, after a change in the insured's coverage that changes  
29 the information required to be on the card pursuant to section 2 of this  
30 act, if the issuance of a new card is required for proper claims  
31 adjudication. The carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or  
32 other health benefits plan provider shall not, however, be required to  
33 issue a new card more than once in a calendar year. Except as  
34 required by this section, a carrier, multiple employer welfare  
35 arrangement or other health benefits plan provider shall not be  
36 required to reissue a pharmacy identification card with any particular  
37 frequency.

38

39 5. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall adopt rules  
40 and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
41 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to carry out the purposes of this  
42 act.

43

44 6. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after enactment and  
45 shall apply to policies or contracts issued or renewed after the  
46 effective date.

STATEMENT TO  
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**SENATE, No. 1330**

with Senate Floor Amendments  
(Proposed By Senator LITTELL)

ADOPTED: JUNE 7, 2001

These amendments provide that Medicaid fee-for-service (administered by the Medicaid program directly), rather than Medicaid managed care plans (administered by health maintenance organizations under contract with Medicaid), would be exempt from the requirement to issue a standardized pharmacy identification information card and the other requirements in the bill.

Amendments make a technical correction to section 2 to provide that the standardized card contain the name or identification number of the health benefits plan, rather than the name and identification number, since some plans only use a name, whereas others use a number.

Amendments also change the effective date of the bill (from 180 days after enactment) to September 1, 2002, to ensure that carriers have sufficient time to comply with the bill's requirements.

[First Reprint]

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**SENATE, No. 1330**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

---

ADOPTED MARCH 15, 2001

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator ROBERT E. LITTELL**

**District 24 (Sussex, Hunterdon and Morris)**

**Senator JACK SINAGRA**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

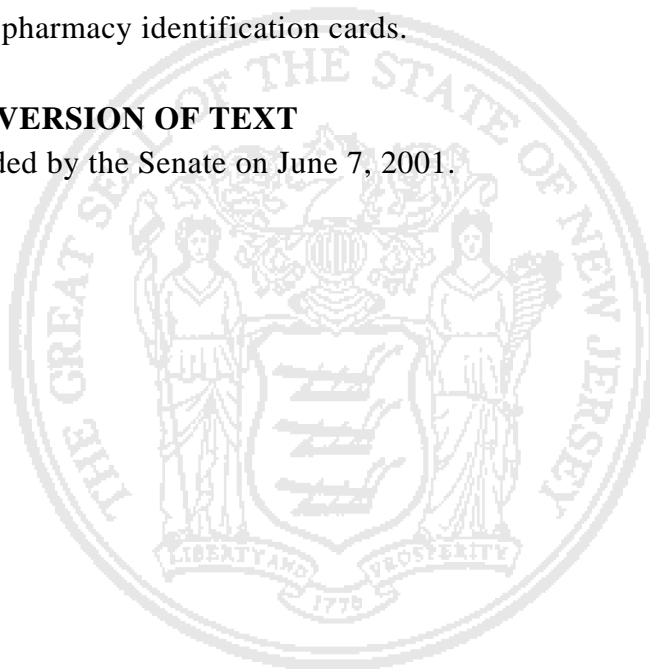
**Senator Matheussen, Assemblyman Felice, Assemblywoman Vandervalk,  
Assemblyman Thompson, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblyman Blee,  
Assemblywomen Weinberg, Murphy, Assemblyman Conaway and  
Assemblywoman Heck**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires health insurers that provide prescription drug coverage to issue standardized pharmacy identification cards.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As amended by the Senate on June 7, 2001.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/29/2001)**

1 AN ACT concerning standardized pharmacy identification cards and  
2 supplementing Title 17B of the New Jersey 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 "Carrier" means an insurance company, health service corporation,  
9 hospital service corporation, medical service corporation or health  
10 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans in  
11 this State.

12 "Health benefits plan" means: a health benefits plan that is  
13 delivered or issued for delivery in this State by or through a carrier; a  
14 plan provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement; or a plan  
15 provided by another benefit arrangement, to the extent permitted by  
16 the "Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-  
17 406 (29 U.S.C. s.1001 et seq.), or by any waiver of or other exception  
18 to that act provided under federal law or regulation. "Health benefits  
19 plan" shall not include accident-only insurance; credit accident and  
20 health insurance; Medicare supplement insurance; <sup>1</sup>[a]<sup>1</sup> Medicaid  
21 <sup>1</sup>[managed care plan] fee-for-service<sup>1</sup>; disability income insurance;  
22 long-term care insurance; specified disease insurance; dental or vision  
23 care plan; hospital indemnity insurance; coverage issued as a  
24 supplement to liability insurance; medical payments under automobile  
25 or homeowners insurance; or insurance under which benefits are  
26 payable without regard to fault and that are statutorily required to be  
27 included in a liability policy or equivalent self-insurance program.

28  
29 2. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
30 health benefits plan provider, or its agents, contractors or  
31 administrators, including but not limited to a pharmacy benefits  
32 manager or third party administrator for a self-insured health benefits  
33 plan, that provides, administers or manages coverage for prescription  
34 drugs provided on an outpatient basis, shall issue or require the  
35 issuance to the primary insured of a card or other technology that  
36 includes standardized pharmacy identification information.

37 b. The card shall comply with the standards set forth in the  
38 National Council for Prescription Drug Programs Pharmacy ID Card  
39 Implementation Guide in effect at the time of card issuance, or, at a  
40 minimum, contain the following information:

41 (1) the name <sup>1</sup>[and] or<sup>1</sup> identification number of the health  
42 benefits plan, when required for proper claims adjudication;

43 (2) the American National Standards Institute International

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> Senate floor amendments adopted June 7, 2001.



1 Identification Number assigned to the administrator or pharmacy  
2 benefits manager of the health benefits plan, labeled as RxBIN, when  
3 required for proper claims adjudication;  
4 (3) the processor control number, labeled as RxPCN, when  
5 required for proper claims adjudication;  
6 (4) the insured's group number, labeled as RxGRP, when required  
7 for proper claims adjudication;  
8 (5) the insured's identification number;  
9 (6) the insured's name; except that, if a separate card is issued for  
10 another person included under the primary insured's coverage, the  
11 name of the covered person to whom the card is issued may be listed  
12 instead of the name of the primary insured;  
13 (7) the telephone number that providers may call for pharmacy  
14 benefits assistance; and  
15 (8) any other information necessary for proper claims adjudication,  
16 except for information provided on the prescription as required by law  
17 or regulation.  
18  
19 3. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
20 health benefits plan provider shall not be required to issue a pharmacy  
21 identification card separate from another identification card issued to  
22 an insured under a health benefits plan if the identification card  
23 contains the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.  
24 b. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
25 health benefits plan provider may use data elements that are required  
26 by State or federal regulations adopted pursuant to the "Health  
27 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-191,  
28 in place of the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.  
29  
30 4. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
31 health benefits plan provider shall provide each primary insured with  
32 a new pharmacy identification card within a reasonable time, not to  
33 exceed 180 days, after a change in the insured's coverage that changes  
34 the information required to be on the card pursuant to section 2 of this  
35 act, if the issuance of a new card is required for proper claims  
36 adjudication. The carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or  
37 other health benefits plan provider shall not, however, be required to  
38 issue a new card more than once in a calendar year. Except as  
39 required by this section, a carrier, multiple employer welfare  
40 arrangement or other health benefits plan provider shall not be  
41 required to reissue a pharmacy identification card with any particular  
42 frequency.  
43  
44 5. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall adopt rules  
45 and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
46 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to carry out the purposes of this  
47 act.

1       6. This act shall take effect on <sup>1</sup>**[the 180th day after enactment]**  
2 September 1, 2002<sup>1</sup> and shall apply to policies or contracts issued or  
3 renewed after the effective date.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2377

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 8, 2000

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman NICHOLAS R. FELICE**

**District 40 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman CHARLOTTE VANDERVALK**

**District 39 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Thompson, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblyman Blee  
and Assemblywoman Weinberg**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires use of uniform prescription drug information card by all prescription drug plans.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/16/2000)**

1 AN ACT concerning uniform prescription drug information cards and  
2 supplementing various parts of statutory law.

3

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

6

7 1. A hospital service corporation which provides hospital or  
8 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
9 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
10 uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant to  
11 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
12 bill) under every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed  
13 in this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
14 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
15 of this act. The information card shall be issued to each current  
16 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
17 upon any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
18 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
19 Legislature as this bill).

20

21 2. A medical service corporation which provides hospital or  
22 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
23 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
24 uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant to  
25 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
26 bill) under every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed  
27 in this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
28 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
29 of this act. The information card shall be issued to each current  
30 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
31 upon any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
32 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
33 Legislature as this bill).

34

35 3. A health service corporation which provides hospital or medical  
36 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
37 drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a uniform  
38 prescription drug information card as established pursuant to section  
39 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)  
40 under every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in  
41 this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
42 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
43 of this act. The information card shall be issued to each current  
44 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
45 upon any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
46 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the

1 Legislature as this bill).

2

3 4. A group health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
4 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
5 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a uniform prescription  
6 drug information card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
7 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
8 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
9 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
10 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act.  
11 The information card shall be issued to each current insured and to  
12 each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in  
13 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
14 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

15

16 5. An individual health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
17 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
18 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a uniform prescription  
19 drug information card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
20 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
21 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
22 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
23 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act. The  
24 information card shall be issued to each current insured and to each  
25 new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in the  
26 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
27 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

28

29 6. A certificate of authority to establish and operate a health  
30 maintenance organization in this State shall not be issued or continued  
31 on or after the effective date of this act for a health maintenance  
32 organization which provides health care services for prescription drugs  
33 under a contract, unless the health maintenance organization issues to  
34 its enrollees a uniform prescription drug information card as  
35 established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
36 before the Legislature as this bill) under every such health maintenance  
37 organization contract. The information card shall be issued to each  
38 current enrollee and to each new enrollee upon enrollment, and  
39 reissued upon any change in the requirements pertaining to the form  
40 of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
41 before the Legislature as this bill).

42

43 7. Effective immediately for an individual health benefits plan  
44 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
45 12-month anniversary date of an individual health benefits plan in  
46 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the individual health

1 benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.161  
2 (C.17B:27A-4) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the  
3 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
4 uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant to  
5 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
6 bill) under every such health benefits plan. The information card shall  
7 be issued to each current covered person and to new covered persons  
8 upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in the requirements  
9 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of  
10 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

11

12 8. Effective immediately for a small employer health benefits plan  
13 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
14 12-month anniversary date of a small employer health benefits plan in  
15 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the small employer  
16 health benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.162  
17 (C.17B:27A-19) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the  
18 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
19 uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant to  
20 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
21 bill) under every such health benefits plan. The information card shall  
22 be issued to each current covered person and to each new covered  
23 person upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in the  
24 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
25 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

26

27 9. A prepaid prescription service organization which provides  
28 benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs  
29 under a contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
30 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
31 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act,  
32 shall issue to its enrollees a uniform prescription drug information card  
33 as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
34 before the Legislature as this bill) under every such contract. The  
35 information card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to each  
36 new enrollee upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change in the  
37 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
38 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

39

40 10. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall issue to  
41 all persons eligible for the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and  
42 Disabled" program pursuant to P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-20 et seq.)  
43 a uniform prescription drug information card as established pursuant  
44 to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as  
45 this bill). The information card shall be issued to each current eligible  
46 person and to each new eligible person upon enrollment in the

1 program, and reissued upon any change in the requirements pertaining  
2 to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )  
3 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

4  
5 11. The Commissioner of Human Services shall issue to all  
6 recipients of the Medicaid program pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413  
7 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.) a uniform prescription drug information card as  
8 established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
9 before the Legislature as this bill). The information card shall be issued  
10 to each current recipient and to each new recipient upon enrollment in  
11 the program, and reissued upon any change in the requirements  
12 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. ,  
13 c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

14  
15 12. The State Health Benefits Commission shall issue to all persons  
16 enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program a uniform prescription  
17 drug information card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
18 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
19 information card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to each  
20 new enrollee upon enrollment in the program, and reissued upon any  
21 change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant  
22 to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as  
23 this bill).

24  
25 13. a. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall establish  
26 by regulation a uniform prescription drug information card for use by  
27 all hospital, medical and health service corporations, individual, small  
28 employer and large group insurers, health maintenance organizations  
29 and prepaid prescription plan organizations that are authorized to issue  
30 contracts, policies or health benefits plans in the State that provide  
31 prescription drug benefits, and by the State Medicaid and  
32 Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled programs and the  
33 State Health Benefits Commission pursuant to the provisions of  
34 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

35 The card shall conform to a national format as determined by the  
36 commissioner.

37 b. The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to  
38 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
39 seq.) to carry out the purposes of this act.

40  
41 14. This act shall take effect on the 90th day following enactment.

42  
43  
44 STATEMENT

45  
46 This bill requires hospital, medical and health service corporations,

1 individual, small employer and large group insurers, health  
2 maintenance organizations and prepaid prescription plan organizations  
3 that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
4 prescription drugs to issue a uniform prescription drug information  
5 card as established by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance.  
6 The bill also extends this requirement for a uniform prescription drug  
7 information card to the State-administered Medicaid, Pharmaceutical  
8 Assistance to the Aged and Disabled and State Health Benefits  
9 programs. The information card shall be issued to each person  
10 currently covered under a prescription drug plan or State program and  
11 upon enrollment to new enrollees, and reissued upon any change in the  
12 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to this bill.

13 The purpose of this bill is to decrease administrative burdens for  
14 pharmacies by eliminating unnecessary paperwork and streamlining  
15 the dispensing of prescription drugs and devices, the costs for which  
16 are covered under third party prescription plans, and thereby improve  
17 care to patients by reducing their waiting times to have prescriptions  
18 filled.



# ASSEMBLY HEALTH COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 2377**

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 19, 2000

The Assembly Health Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 2377.

As amended by the committee, this bill requires hospital, medical and health service corporations, individual, small employer and large group insurers, health maintenance organizations and prepaid prescription plan organizations that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs to issue a standardized prescription benefits identification card as established by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance. The bill also extends this requirement for a standardized prescription benefits identification card to the State-administered Medicaid, Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled and State Health Benefits programs. The card shall be issued to each person currently covered under a prescription drug plan or State program, and upon enrollment to new insureds, and reissued upon any change in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to this bill.

The bill takes effect on January 1, 2001.

The committee amendments:

- C substitute the term "standardized prescription benefits identification card" for "uniform prescription drug information card";
- C require that each such card issued to a covered person be reissued upon any change in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to this bill;
- C require that the card conform to standards adopted by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs or any other nationally accepted standards, as determined by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance; and
- C change the effective date from the 90th day following enactment to January 1, 2001.

These amendments are designed to conform this bill with similar legislation that has been enacted in other states.

The purpose of this bill is to decrease administrative burdens for

pharmacies by eliminating unnecessary paperwork and streamlining the dispensing of prescription drugs and devices, the costs for which are covered under third party prescription plans, and thereby improve care to patients by reducing their waiting times to have prescriptions filled.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1330 Sca (Littell/Sinagra), which is currently pending before the Senate.

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2377**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED MAY 8, 2000

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman NICHOLAS R. FELICE**

**District 40 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman CHARLOTTE VANDERVALK**

**District 39 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

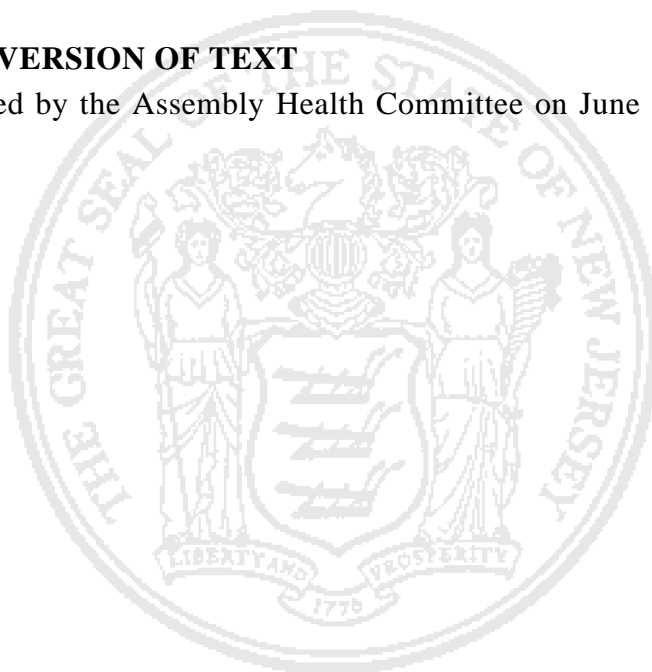
**Assemblyman Thompson, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblyman Blee  
and Assemblywoman Weinberg**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires use of standardized prescription benefits identification card by all prescription drug plans.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Health Committee on June 19, 2000, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/16/2000)**

1 AN ACT concerning <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug  
2 information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> cards  
3 and supplementing various parts of statutory law.  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6 *of New Jersey:*  
7

8 1. A hospital service corporation which provides hospital or  
9 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
10 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
11 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
12 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
13 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
14 every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this  
15 State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
16 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
17 of this act. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current  
18 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
19 upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the  
20 card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the  
21 card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
22 Legislature as this bill).  
23

24 2. A medical service corporation which provides hospital or  
25 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
26 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
27 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
28 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
29 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
30 every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this  
31 State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
32 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
33 of this act. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current  
34 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
35 upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the  
36 card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the  
37 card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
38 Legislature as this bill).  
39

40 3. A health service corporation which provides hospital or medical  
41 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> Assembly AHL committee amendments adopted June 19, 2000.

1 drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
2 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
3 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c.  
4 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under every such  
5 contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or  
6 approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of  
7 Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act. The  
8 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current subscriber and to  
9 each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change  
10 <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup>  
11 in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to  
12 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
13 bill).

14

15 4. A group health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
16 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
17 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
18 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
19 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
20 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
21 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
22 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
23 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act.  
24 The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current insured and  
25 to each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change  
26 <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup>  
27 in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to  
28 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
29 bill).

30

31 5. An individual health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
32 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
33 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
34 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
35 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
36 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
37 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
38 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
39 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act. The  
40 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current insured and to  
41 each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
42 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
43 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
44 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

1       6. A certificate of authority to establish and operate a health  
2 maintenance organization in this State shall not be issued or continued  
3 on or after the effective date of this act for a health maintenance  
4 organization which provides health care services for prescription drugs  
5 under a contract, unless the health maintenance organization issues to  
6 its enrollees a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized  
7 prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to  
8 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
9 bill) under every such health maintenance organization contract. The  
10 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
11 each new enrollee upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
12 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
13 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
14 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
15

16       7. Effective immediately for an individual health benefits plan  
17 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
18 12-month anniversary date of an individual health benefits plan in  
19 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the individual health  
20 benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.161  
21 (C.17B:27A-4) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the  
22 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
23 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
24 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
25 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
26 every such health benefits plan. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be  
27 issued to each current covered person and to new covered persons  
28 upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that  
29 affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the  
30 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
31 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
32

33       8. Effective immediately for a small employer health benefits plan  
34 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
35 12-month anniversary date of a small employer health benefits plan in  
36 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the small employer  
37 health benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.162  
38 (C.17B:27A-19) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the  
39 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
40 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
41 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
42 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
43 every such health benefits plan. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be  
44 issued to each current covered person and to each new covered  
45 person upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage  
46 that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the

1 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
2 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

3  
4 9. A prepaid prescription service organization which provides  
5 benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs  
6 under a contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
7 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
8 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act,  
9 shall issue to its enrollees a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information]  
10 standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established  
11 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
12 Legislature as this bill) under every such contract. The  
13 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
14 each new enrollee upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
15 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
16 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
17 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

18  
19 10. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall issue to  
20 all persons eligible for the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and  
21 Disabled" program pursuant to P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-20 et seq.)  
22 a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
23 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
24 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
25 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current eligible person  
26 and to each new eligible person upon enrollment in the program, and  
27 reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements  
28 on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form  
29 of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
30 before the Legislature as this bill).

31  
32 11. The Commissioner of Human Services shall issue to all  
33 recipients of the Medicaid program pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413  
34 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.) a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information]  
35 standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established  
36 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
37 Legislature as this bill). The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to  
38 each current recipient and to each new recipient upon enrollment in the  
39 program, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the  
40 data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements  
41 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. ,  
42 c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

43  
44 12. The State Health Benefits Commission shall issue to all persons  
45 enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription  
46 drug information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup>

1 card as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )  
2 (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card  
3 shall be issued to each current enrollee and to each new enrollee upon  
4 enrollment in the program, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage  
5 that affects the data elements on the card and or change<sup>1</sup> in the  
6 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
7 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

8  
9 13. a. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall establish  
10 by regulation a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized  
11 prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card for use by all hospital,  
12 medical and health service corporations, individual, small employer  
13 and large group insurers, health maintenance organizations and prepaid  
14 prescription plan organizations that are authorized to issue contracts,  
15 policies or health benefits plans in the State that provide prescription  
16 drug benefits, and by the State Medicaid and Pharmaceutical  
17 Assistance to the Aged and Disabled programs and the State Health  
18 Benefits Commission pursuant to the provisions of P.L. , c. (C. )  
19 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

20 The card shall conform to <sup>1</sup>[a national format]standards adopted  
21 by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs or any other  
22 nationally accepted standards,<sup>1</sup> as determined by the commissioner.

23 b. The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to  
24 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
25 seq.) to carry out the purposes of this act.

26  
27 14. This act shall take effect on <sup>1</sup>[the 90th day following  
28 enactment] January 1, 2001<sup>1</sup>.



STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2377**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Assemblyman FELICE)  
to

ADOPTED: JUNE 26, 2000

These amendments delete the Medicaid program from the bill's requirement that all prescription drug benefit plans in the State shall issue a standardized prescription benefits identification card to covered persons. The amendments also extend the effective date of the bill from January 1, 2001 to July 1, 2001.

[Second Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2377**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED MAY 8, 2000

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman NICHOLAS R. FELICE**

**District 40 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman CHARLOTTE VANDERVALK**

**District 39 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

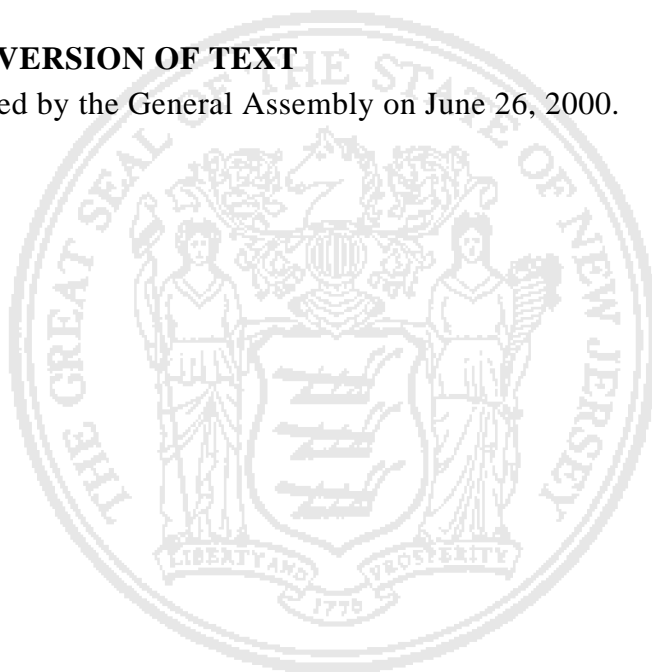
**Assemblyman Thompson, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblyman Blee,  
Assemblywomen Weinberg and Murphy**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires use of standardized prescription benefits identification card by all prescription drug plans.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As amended by the General Assembly on June 26, 2000.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/22/2000)**

1 AN ACT concerning <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug  
2 information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> cards  
3 and supplementing various parts of statutory law.

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

7  
8 1. A hospital service corporation which provides hospital or  
9 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
10 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
11 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
12 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
13 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
14 every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this  
15 State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
16 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
17 of this act. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current  
18 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
19 upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the  
20 card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the  
21 card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
22 Legislature as this bill).

23  
24 2. A medical service corporation which provides hospital or  
25 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
26 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
27 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
28 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
29 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
30 every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this  
31 State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
32 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
33 of this act. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current  
34 subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued  
35 upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the  
36 card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the  
37 card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
38 Legislature as this bill).

39  
40 3. A health service corporation which provides hospital or medical  
41 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> Assembly AHL committee amendments adopted June 19, 2000.

<sup>2</sup> Assembly floor amendments adopted June 26, 2000.

1 drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
2 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
3 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c.  
4 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under every such  
5 contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or  
6 approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of  
7 Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act. The  
8 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current subscriber and to  
9 each new subscriber upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change  
10 <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup>  
11 in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to  
12 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
13 bill).

14

15 4. A group health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
16 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
17 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
18 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
19 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
20 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
21 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
22 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
23 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act.  
24 The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current insured and  
25 to each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change  
26 <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup>  
27 in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to  
28 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
29 bill).

30

31 5. An individual health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
32 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
33 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
34 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
35 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
36 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
37 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
38 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
39 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act. The  
40 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current insured and to  
41 each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
42 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
43 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
44 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

1       6. A certificate of authority to establish and operate a health  
2 maintenance organization in this State shall not be issued or continued  
3 on or after the effective date of this act for a health maintenance  
4 organization which provides health care services for prescription drugs  
5 under a contract, unless the health maintenance organization issues to  
6 its enrollees a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized  
7 prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to  
8 section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
9 bill) under every such health maintenance organization contract. The  
10 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
11 each new enrollee upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
12 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
13 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
14 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
15

16       7. Effective immediately for an individual health benefits plan  
17 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
18 12-month anniversary date of an individual health benefits plan in  
19 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the individual health  
20 benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.161  
21 (C.17B:27A-4) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the  
22 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
23 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
24 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
25 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
26 every such health benefits plan. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be  
27 issued to each current covered person and to new covered persons  
28 upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that  
29 affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the  
30 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
31 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
32

33       8. Effective immediately for a small employer health benefits plan  
34 issued on or after the effective date of this act and effective on the first  
35 12-month anniversary date of a small employer health benefits plan in  
36 effect on the effective date of this act, each of the small employer  
37 health benefits plans required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.162  
38 (C.17B:27A-19) that provide benefits for expenses incurred in the  
39 purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its covered persons a  
40 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
41 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
42 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
43 every such health benefits plan. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be  
44 issued to each current covered person and to each new covered  
45 person upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage  
46 that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the

1 requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13  
2 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

3  
4 9. A prepaid prescription service organization which provides  
5 benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs  
6 under a contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
7 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
8 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act,  
9 shall issue to its enrollees a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information]  
10 standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established  
11 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
12 Legislature as this bill) under every such contract. The  
13 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
14 each new enrollee upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
15 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
16 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
17 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

18  
19 10. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall issue to  
20 all persons eligible for the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and  
21 Disabled" program pursuant to P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-20 et seq.)  
22 a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
23 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of  
24 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
25 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current eligible person  
26 and to each new eligible person upon enrollment in the program, and  
27 reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements  
28 on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form  
29 of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
30 before the Legislature as this bill).

31  
32 <sup>2</sup>[11. The Commissioner of Human Services shall issue to all  
33 recipients of the Medicaid program pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413  
34 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.) a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information]  
35 standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established  
36 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
37 Legislature as this bill). The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to  
38 each current recipient and to each new recipient upon enrollment in the  
39 program, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the  
40 data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements  
41 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. ,  
42 c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).]<sup>2</sup>

43  
44 <sup>2</sup>[12.] 11.<sup>2</sup> The State Health Benefits Commission shall issue to  
45 all persons enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program a <sup>1</sup>[uniform

1 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
2 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c.  
3 (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
4 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
5 each new enrollee upon enrollment in the program, and reissued upon  
6 any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card and  
7 or change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
8 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
9 Legislature as this bill).

10  
11 <sup>2</sup>[13.] 12.<sup>2</sup> a. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall  
12 establish by regulation a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug  
13 information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card for  
14 use by all hospital, medical and health service corporations, individual,  
15 small employer and large group insurers, health maintenance  
16 organizations and prepaid prescription plan organizations that are  
17 authorized to issue contracts, policies or health benefits plans in the  
18 State that provide prescription drug benefits, and by the State  
19 <sup>2</sup>[Medicaid and]<sup>2</sup> Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled  
20 <sup>2</sup>[programs] program<sup>2</sup> and the State Health Benefits Commission  
21 pursuant to the provisions of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
22 Legislature as this bill).

23 The card shall conform to <sup>1</sup>[a national format]standards adopted  
24 by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs or any other  
25 nationally accepted standards.<sup>1</sup> as determined by the commissioner.

26 b. The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to  
27 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
28 seq.) to carry out the purposes of this act.

29  
30 <sup>2</sup>[14.] 13.<sup>2</sup> This act shall take effect on <sup>1</sup>[the 90th day following  
31 enactment] <sup>2</sup>[January 1] July 1<sup>2</sup>, 2001<sup>1</sup>.

STATEMENT TO  
[Second Reprint]  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 2377**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed By Assemblyman FELICE and Assemblywoman VANDERVALK)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 11, 2000

These technical floor amendments (1) correct references in the bill to a section that was renumbered as the result of a previous amendment, and (2) provide that a provision authorizing the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance to promulgate regulations establishing the standardized prescription benefits identification card shall take effect immediately.



[Third Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2377**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED MAY 8, 2000

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman NICHOLAS R. FELICE**

**District 40 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman CHARLOTTE VANDERVALK**

**District 39 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

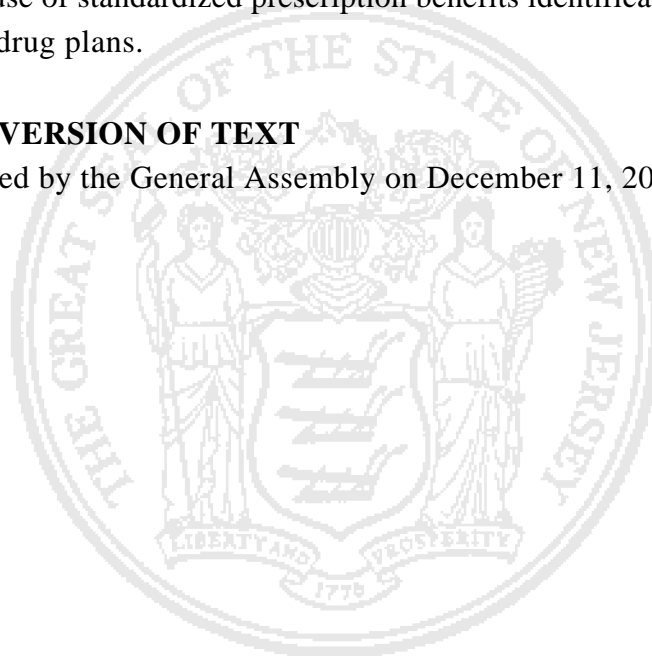
**Assemblyman Thompson, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblyman Blee,  
Assemblywomen Weinberg and Murphy**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires use of standardized prescription benefits identification card by all prescription drug plans.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As amended by the General Assembly on December 11, 2000.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/22/2000)**

1 AN ACT concerning <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug  
2 information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> cards  
3 and supplementing various parts of statutory law.

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

7  
8 1. A hospital service corporation which provides hospital or  
9 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
10 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
11 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
12 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13]  
13 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
14 bill) under every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed  
15 in this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
16 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
17 of this <sup>3</sup>[act] section<sup>3</sup>. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to  
18 each current subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment,  
19 and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data  
20 elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to  
21 the form of the card pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c.  
22 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

23  
24 2. A medical service corporation which provides hospital or  
25 medical expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of  
26 prescription drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a  
27 <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
28 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13]  
29 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)  
30 under every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in  
31 this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
32 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
33 of this <sup>3</sup>[act] section<sup>3</sup>. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to  
34 each current subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment,  
35 and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data  
36 elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to  
37 the form of the card pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c.  
38 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

39  
40 3. A health service corporation which provides hospital or medical

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> Assembly AHL committee amendments adopted June 19, 2000.

<sup>2</sup> Assembly floor amendments adopted June 26, 2000.

<sup>3</sup> Assembly floor amendments adopted December 11, 2000.

1 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
2 drugs under a contract, shall issue to its subscribers a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
3 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
4 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of  
5 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
6 every such contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this  
7 State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the  
8 Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date  
9 of this <sup>3</sup>[act] section<sup>3</sup>. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to  
10 each current subscriber and to each new subscriber upon enrollment,  
11 and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data  
12 elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to  
13 the form of the card pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c.  
14 (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

15

16 4. A group health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
17 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
18 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
19 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
20 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of  
21 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
22 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
23 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
24 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this <sup>3</sup>[act]  
25 section<sup>3</sup>. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current  
26 insured and to each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon  
27 any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or  
28 any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
29 pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before  
30 the Legislature as this bill).

31

32 5. An individual health insurer which provides hospital or medical  
33 expense benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription  
34 drugs under a policy, shall issue to its insureds a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
35 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
36 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of  
37 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under  
38 every such policy delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
39 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
40 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this <sup>3</sup>[act]  
41 section<sup>3</sup>. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current  
42 insured and to each new insured upon enrollment, and reissued upon  
43 any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or  
44 any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
45 pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the

1 Legislature as this bill).

2

3 6. A certificate of authority to establish and operate a health  
4 maintenance organization in this State shall not be issued or continued  
5 on or after the effective date of this <sup>3</sup>[act] section<sup>3</sup> for a health  
6 maintenance organization which provides health care services for  
7 prescription drugs under a contract, unless the health maintenance  
8 organization issues to its enrollees a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug  
9 information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as  
10 established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. ,  
11 c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill) under every such  
12 health maintenance organization contract. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card  
13 shall be issued to each current enrollee and to each new enrollee upon  
14 enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the  
15 data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements  
16 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of  
17 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

18

19 7. Effective immediately for an individual health benefits plan  
20 issued on or after the effective date of this <sup>3</sup>[act] section<sup>3</sup> and  
21 effective on the first 12-month anniversary date of an individual health  
22 benefits plan in effect on the effective date of this <sup>3</sup>[act] section<sup>3</sup>,  
23 each of the individual health benefits plans required pursuant to section  
24 3 of P.L.1992, c.161 (C.17B:27A-4) that provide benefits for expenses  
25 incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs, shall issue to its  
26 covered persons a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information]  
27 standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established  
28 pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before  
29 the Legislature as this bill) under every such health benefits plan. The  
30 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current covered person  
31 and to new covered persons upon enrollment, and reissued upon any  
32 change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any  
33 change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
34 pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before  
35 the Legislature as this bill).

36

37 8. Effective immediately for a small employer health benefits plan  
38 issued on or after the effective date of this <sup>3</sup>[act] section<sup>3</sup> and  
39 effective on the first 12-month anniversary date of a small employer  
40 health benefits plan in effect on the effective date of this <sup>3</sup>[act]  
41 section<sup>3</sup>, each of the small employer health benefits plans required  
42 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1992, c.162 (C.17B:27A-19) that provide  
43 benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs,  
44 shall issue to its covered persons a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug  
45 information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as

1 established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
2 before the Legislature as this bill) under every such health benefits  
3 plan. The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current  
4 covered person and to each new covered person upon enrollment, and  
5 reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements  
6 on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form  
7 of the card pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
8 before the Legislature as this bill).

9  
10 9. A prepaid prescription service organization which provides  
11 benefits for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription drugs  
12 under a contract delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State,  
13 or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner  
14 of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this <sup>3</sup>[act]  
15 section<sup>3</sup>, shall issue to its enrollees a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug  
16 information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as  
17 established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending  
18 before the Legislature as this bill) under every such contract. The  
19 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
20 each new enrollee upon enrollment, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in  
21 coverage that affects the data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in  
22 the requirements pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section  
23 <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
24 bill).

25  
26 10. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall issue to  
27 all persons eligible for the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and  
28 Disabled" program pursuant to P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-20 et seq.)  
29 a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information] standardized prescription  
30 benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13]  
31 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
32 The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current eligible  
33 person and to each new eligible person upon enrollment in the  
34 program, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the  
35 data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements  
36 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of  
37 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

38  
39 <sup>2</sup>[11. The Commissioner of Human Services shall issue to all  
40 recipients of the Medicaid program pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413  
41 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.) a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug information]  
42 standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card as established  
43 pursuant to section 13 of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
44 Legislature as this bill). The <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to  
45 each current recipient and to each new recipient upon enrollment in the

1 program, and reissued upon any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the  
2 data elements on the card or any change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements  
3 pertaining to the form of the card pursuant to section 13 of P.L. ,  
4 c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).]<sup>2</sup>

5  
6 <sup>2</sup>[12.] 11.<sup>2</sup> The State Health Benefits Commission shall issue to  
7 all persons enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program a <sup>1</sup>[uniform  
8 prescription drug information] standardized prescription benefits  
9 identification<sup>1</sup> card as established pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of  
10 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
11 <sup>1</sup>[information]<sup>1</sup> card shall be issued to each current enrollee and to  
12 each new enrollee upon enrollment in the program, and reissued upon  
13 any change <sup>1</sup>in coverage that affects the data elements on the card and  
14 or change<sup>1</sup> in the requirements pertaining to the form of the card  
15 pursuant to section <sup>3</sup>[13] 12<sup>3</sup> of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before  
16 the Legislature as this bill).

17  
18 <sup>2</sup>[13.] 12.<sup>2</sup> a. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall  
19 establish by regulation a <sup>1</sup>[uniform prescription drug  
20 information] standardized prescription benefits identification<sup>1</sup> card for  
21 use by all hospital, medical and health service corporations, individual,  
22 small employer and large group insurers, health maintenance  
23 organizations and prepaid prescription plan organizations that are  
24 authorized to issue contracts, policies or health benefits plans in the  
25 State that provide prescription drug benefits, and by the State  
26 <sup>2</sup>[Medicaid and]<sup>2</sup> Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled  
27 <sup>2</sup>[programs] program<sup>2</sup> and the State Health Benefits Commission  
28 pursuant to the provisions of P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the  
29 Legislature as this bill).

30 The card shall conform to <sup>1</sup>[a national format]standards adopted  
31 by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs or any other  
32 nationally accepted standards.<sup>1</sup> as determined by the commissioner.

33 b. The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to  
34 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
35 seq.) to carry out the purposes of this act.

36  
37 <sup>2</sup>[14.] 13.<sup>2</sup> This act shall take effect on <sup>1</sup>[the 90th day following  
38 enactment] <sup>2</sup>[January 1] July 1<sup>2</sup>, 2001<sup>1 3</sup>, except that section 12 shall  
39 take effect immediately<sup>3</sup>.

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 2377**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

---

ADOPTED MARCH 26, 2001

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman NICHOLAS R. FELICE**

**District 40 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman CHARLOTTE VANDERVALK**

**District 39 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Thompson, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblyman Blee,  
Assemblywomen Weinberg, Murphy and Assemblyman Conaway**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires health insurers that provide prescription drug coverage to issue standardized pharmacy identification cards.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Substitute as adopted by the General Assembly.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 4/20/2001)**

1 AN ACT concerning standardized pharmacy identification cards and  
2 supplementing Title 17B of the New Jersey 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 "Carrier" means an insurance company, health service corporation,  
9 hospital service corporation, medical service corporation or health  
10 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans in  
11 this State.

12 "Health benefits plan" means: a health benefits plan that is  
13 delivered or issued for delivery in this State by or through a carrier; a  
14 plan provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement; or a plan  
15 provided by another benefit arrangement, to the extent permitted by  
16 the "Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-  
17 406 (29 U.S.C. s.1001 et seq.), or by any waiver of or other exception  
18 to that act provided under federal law or regulation. "Health benefits  
19 plan" shall not include accident-only insurance; credit accident and  
20 health insurance; Medicare supplement insurance; a Medicaid managed  
21 care plan; disability income insurance; long-term care insurance;  
22 specified disease insurance; dental or vision care plan; hospital  
23 indemnity insurance; coverage issued as a supplement to liability  
24 insurance; medical payments under automobile or homeowners  
25 insurance; or insurance under which benefits are payable without  
26 regard to fault and that are statutorily required to be included in a  
27 liability policy or equivalent self-insurance program.

28  
29 2. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
30 health benefits plan provider, or its agents, contractors or  
31 administrators, including but not limited to a pharmacy benefits  
32 manager or third party administrator for a self-insured health benefits  
33 plan, that provides, administers or manages coverage for prescription  
34 drugs provided on an outpatient basis, shall issue or require the  
35 issuance to the primary insured of a card or other technology that  
36 includes standardized pharmacy identification information.

37 b. The card shall comply with the standards set forth in the  
38 National Council for Prescription Drug Programs Pharmacy ID Card  
39 Implementation Guide in effect at the time of card issuance, or, at a  
40 minimum, contain the following information:

41 (1) the name and identification number of the health benefits plan,  
42 when required for proper claims adjudication;

43 (2) the American National Standards Institute International  
44 Identification Number assigned to the administrator or pharmacy  
45 benefits manager of the health benefits plan, labeled as RxBIN, when  
46 required for proper claims adjudication;



- 1 (3) the processor control number, labeled as RxPCN, when  
2 required for proper claims adjudication;
- 3 (4) the insured's group number, labeled as RxGRP, when required  
4 for proper claims adjudication;
- 5 (5) the insured's identification number;
- 6 (6) the insured's name; except that, if a separate card is issued for  
7 another person included under the primary insured's coverage, the  
8 name of the covered person to whom the card is issued may be listed  
9 instead of the name of the primary insured;
- 10 (7) the telephone number that providers may call for pharmacy  
11 benefits assistance; and
- 12 (8) any other information necessary for proper claims adjudication,  
13 except for information provided on the prescription as required by law  
14 or regulation.
- 15
- 16 3. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
17 health benefits plan provider shall not be required to issue a pharmacy  
18 identification card separate from another identification card issued to  
19 an insured under a health benefits plan if the identification card  
20 contains the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.
- 21 b. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
22 health benefits plan provider may use data elements that are required  
23 by State or federal regulations adopted pursuant to the "Health  
24 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-191,  
25 in place of the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.  
26
- 27 4. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
28 health benefits plan provider shall provide each primary insured with  
29 a new pharmacy identification card within a reasonable time, not to  
30 exceed 180 days, after a change in the insured's coverage that changes  
31 the information required to be on the card pursuant to section 2 of this  
32 act, if the issuance of a new card is required for proper claims  
33 adjudication. The carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or  
34 other health benefits plan provider shall not, however, be required to  
35 issue a new card more than once in a calendar year. Except as  
36 required by this section, a carrier, multiple employer welfare  
37 arrangement or other health benefits plan provider shall not be  
38 required to reissue a pharmacy identification card with any particular  
39 frequency.  
40
- 41 5. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall adopt rules  
42 and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
43 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to carry out the purposes of this  
44 act.

1           6. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after enactment and  
2 shall apply to policies or contracts issued or renewed after the  
3 effective date.

4  
5

6                           STATEMENT  
7

8           This Assembly substitute requires providers of most health benefits  
9 plans that include prescription drug coverage to issue to their insureds  
10 an identification card containing standardized pharmacy information.

11          The substitute would apply to any health insurance carrier, multiple  
12 employer welfare arrangement or other health benefits plan provider,  
13 or its agents (including any pharmacy benefits manager or third party  
14 administrator for a self-insured health benefits plan), that provides,  
15 administers or manages coverage for prescription drugs provided on  
16 an outpatient basis. The bill explicitly would not apply to providers of  
17 Medicaid managed care plans, Medicare supplemental insurance,  
18 disability income and long-term care plans, hospitality indemnity  
19 insurance, and various other plans offering restricted health benefit  
20 coverage.

21          The substitute stipulates that the card shall comply with the  
22 standards set forth in the National Council for Prescription Drug  
23 Programs Pharmacy ID Card Implementation Guide in effect at the  
24 time of card issuance or, at a minimum, contain the following  
25 information:

26           (1) the insured's identification number;

27           (2) the insured's name or, if the card is issued for another person  
28 included under the primary insured's coverage, that person's name;

29           (3) if required for proper claims adjudication,

30 < the name and identification number of the health benefits plan,  
31 < the American National Standards Institute International  
32 Identification Number assigned to the plan's administrator or  
33 pharmacy benefits manager,

34 < the processor control number, and

35 < the insured's group number;

36           (4) the telephone number that providers may call for pharmacy  
37 benefits assistance; and

38           (5) any other information needed for proper claims adjudication,  
39 except for information required to be provided on the prescription.

40          The substitute provides that a plan provider need not issue a  
41 special pharmacy identification card to an insured who has already  
42 been issued a general plan member identification card containing the  
43 information required under the substitute. Also, it allows providers to  
44 use data elements that are required by State or federal regulations  
45 adopted under the federal "Health Insurance Portability and  
46 Accountability Act of 1996" ("HIPAA") in place of the information  
47 required under the substitute.

1       The substitute directs a plan provider to issue to each primary  
2 insured a new pharmacy identification card within 180 days after a  
3 change in the insured's coverage that changes the information required  
4 to be included on the card, if necessary for proper claims adjudication.  
5 The plan provider would not, however, have to issue a new card more  
6 than once in a calendar year.

7       The substitute is to take effect on the 180th day after enactment  
8 and apply to policies or contracts issued or renewed after that date.

9       This substitute is identical to the Senate Committee Substitute for  
10 Senate Bill No. 1330 (1R)(Littell/Sinagra), which is pending before the  
11 Senate.

STATEMENT TO  
  
ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 2377**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed By Assemblyman FELICE)

ADOPTED: JUNE 14, 2001

These amendments provide that Medicaid fee-for-service (administered by the Medicaid program directly), rather than Medicaid managed care plans (administered by health maintenance organizations under contract with Medicaid), would be exempt from the requirement to issue a standardized pharmacy identification information card and the other requirements in the bill.

Amendments make a technical correction to section 2 to provide that the standardized card contain the name or identification number of the health benefits plan, rather than the name and identification number, since some plans only use a name, whereas others use a number.

Amendments also change the effective date of the bill (from 180 days after enactment) to September 1, 2002, to ensure that carriers have sufficient time to comply with the bill's requirements.

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 2377**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

---

ADOPTED MARCH 26, 2001

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman NICHOLAS R. FELICE**

**District 40 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman CHARLOTTE VANDERVALK**

**District 39 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

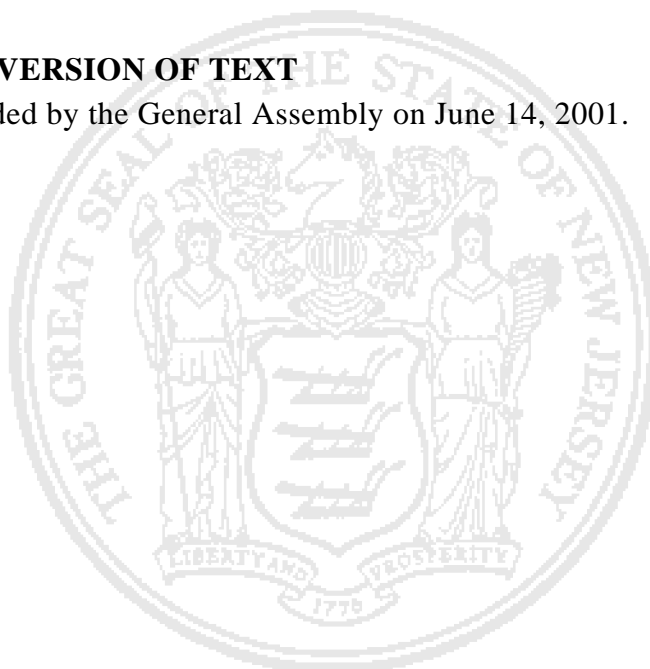
**Assemblyman Thompson, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblyman Blee,  
Assemblywomen Weinberg, Murphy, Assemblyman Conaway and  
Assemblywoman Heck**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires health insurers that provide prescription drug coverage to issue standardized pharmacy identification cards.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As amended by the General Assembly on June 14, 2001.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/29/2001)**

1 AN ACT concerning standardized pharmacy identification cards and  
2 supplementing Title 17B of the New Jersey 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 "Carrier" means an insurance company, health service corporation,  
9 hospital service corporation, medical service corporation or health  
10 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans in  
11 this State.

12 "Health benefits plan" means: a health benefits plan that is  
13 delivered or issued for delivery in this State by or through a carrier; a  
14 plan provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement; or a plan  
15 provided by another benefit arrangement, to the extent permitted by  
16 the "Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-  
17 406 (29 U.S.C.s.1001 et seq.), or by any waiver of or other exception  
18 to that act provided under federal law or regulation. "Health benefits  
19 plan" shall not include accident-only insurance; credit accident and  
20 health insurance; Medicare supplement insurance; <sup>1</sup>[a]<sup>1</sup> Medicaid  
21 <sup>1</sup>[managed care plan] fee-for-service<sup>1</sup>; disability income insurance;  
22 long-term care insurance; specified disease insurance; dental or vision  
23 care plan; hospital indemnity insurance; coverage issued as a  
24 supplement to liability insurance; medical payments under automobile  
25 or homeowners insurance; or insurance under which benefits are  
26 payable without regard to fault and that are statutorily required to be  
27 included in a liability policy or equivalent self-insurance program.

28  
29 2. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
30 health benefits plan provider, or its agents, contractors or  
31 administrators, including but not limited to a pharmacy benefits  
32 manager or third party administrator for a self-insured health benefits  
33 plan, that provides, administers or manages coverage for prescription  
34 drugs provided on an outpatient basis, shall issue or require the  
35 issuance to the primary insured of a card or other technology that  
36 includes standardized pharmacy identification information.

37 b. The card shall comply with the standards set forth in the  
38 National Council for Prescription Drug Programs Pharmacy ID Card  
39 Implementation Guide in effect at the time of card issuance, or, at a  
40 minimum, contain the following information:

41 (1) the name <sup>1</sup>[and] or<sup>1</sup> identification number of the health

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> Assembly floor amendments adopted June 14, 2001.

- 1 benefits plan, when required for proper claims adjudication;
- 2 (2) the American National Standards Institute International  
3 Identification Number assigned to the administrator or pharmacy  
4 benefits manager of the health benefits plan, labeled as RxBIN, when  
5 required for proper claims adjudication;
- 6 (3) the processor control number, labeled as RxPCN, when  
7 required for proper claims adjudication;
- 8 (4) the insured's group number, labeled as RxGRP, when required  
9 for proper claims adjudication;
- 10 (5) the insured's identification number;
- 11 (6) the insured's name; except that, if a separate card is issued for  
12 another person included under the primary insured's coverage, the  
13 name of the covered person to whom the card is issued may be listed  
14 instead of the name of the primary insured;
- 15 (7) the telephone number that providers may call for pharmacy  
16 benefits assistance; and
- 17 (8) any other information necessary for proper claims  
18 adjudication, except for information provided on the prescription as  
19 required by law or regulation.
- 20
- 21 3. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
22 health benefits plan provider shall not be required to issue a pharmacy  
23 identification card separate from another identification card issued to  
24 an insured under a health benefits plan if the identification card  
25 contains the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.
- 26 b. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
27 health benefits plan provider may use data elements that are required  
28 by State or federal regulations adopted pursuant to the "Health  
29 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-191,  
30 in place of the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.  
31
- 32 4. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
33 health benefits plan provider shall provide each primary insured with  
34 a new pharmacy identification card within a reasonable time, not to  
35 exceed 180 days, after a change in the insured's coverage that changes  
36 the information required to be on the card pursuant to section 2 of this  
37 act, if the issuance of a new card is required for proper claims  
38 adjudication. The carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or  
39 other health benefits plan provider shall not, however, be required to  
40 issue a new card more than once in a calendar year. Except as  
41 required by this section, a carrier, multiple employer welfare  
42 arrangement or other health benefits plan provider shall not be  
43 required to reissue a pharmacy identification card with any particular  
44 frequency.
- 45
- 46 5. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall adopt rules

1 and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
2 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to carry out the purposes of this  
3 act.

4

5 6. This act shall take effect on <sup>1</sup>[the 180th day after  
6 enactment] September 1, 2002<sup>1</sup> and shall apply to policies or  
7 contracts issued or renewed after the effective date.



P.L. 2001, CHAPTER 200, *approved August 8, 2001*  
Senate Committee Substitute (*First Reprint*) for  
Senate, No. 1330

1 AN ACT concerning standardized pharmacy identification cards and  
2 supplementing Title 17B of the New Jersey 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 "Carrier" means an insurance company, health service corporation,  
9 hospital service corporation, medical service corporation or health  
10 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans in  
11 this State.

12 "Health benefits plan" means: a health benefits plan that is  
13 delivered or issued for delivery in this State by or through a carrier; a  
14 plan provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement; or a plan  
15 provided by another benefit arrangement, to the extent permitted by  
16 the "Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-  
17 406 (29 U.S.C. s.1001 et seq.), or by any waiver of or other exception  
18 to that act provided under federal law or regulation. "Health benefits  
19 plan" shall not include accident-only insurance; credit accident and  
20 health insurance; Medicare supplement insurance; <sup>1</sup>[a]<sup>1</sup> Medicaid  
21 <sup>1</sup>[managed care plan] fee-for-service<sup>1</sup>; disability income insurance;  
22 long-term care insurance; specified disease insurance; dental or vision  
23 care plan; hospital indemnity insurance; coverage issued as a  
24 supplement to liability insurance; medical payments under automobile  
25 or homeowners insurance; or insurance under which benefits are  
26 payable without regard to fault and that are statutorily required to be  
27 included in a liability policy or equivalent self-insurance program.

28

29 2. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
30 health benefits plan provider, or its agents, contractors or  
31 administrators, including but not limited to a pharmacy benefits  
32 manager or third party administrator for a self-insured health benefits  
33 plan, that provides, administers or manages coverage for prescription  
34 drugs provided on an outpatient basis, shall issue or require the  
35 issuance to the primary insured of a card or other technology that  
36 includes standardized pharmacy identification information.

37 b. The card shall comply with the standards set forth in the  
38 National Council for Prescription Drug Programs Pharmacy ID Card

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> Senate floor amendments adopted June 7, 2001.

1 Implementation Guide in effect at the time of card issuance, or, at a  
2 minimum, contain the following information:

3 (1) the name <sup>1</sup>[and] <sup>1</sup>or<sup>1</sup> identification number of the health  
4 benefits plan, when required for proper claims adjudication;

5 (2) the American National Standards Institute International  
6 Identification Number assigned to the administrator or pharmacy  
7 benefits manager of the health benefits plan, labeled as RxBIN, when  
8 required for proper claims adjudication;

9 (3) the processor control number, labeled as RxPCN, when  
10 required for proper claims adjudication;

11 (4) the insured's group number, labeled as RxGRP, when required  
12 for proper claims adjudication;

13 (5) the insured's identification number;

14 (6) the insured's name; except that, if a separate card is issued for  
15 another person included under the primary insured's coverage, the  
16 name of the covered person to whom the card is issued may be listed  
17 instead of the name of the primary insured;

18 (7) the telephone number that providers may call for pharmacy  
19 benefits assistance; and

20 (8) any other information necessary for proper claims adjudication,  
21 except for information provided on the prescription as required by law  
22 or regulation.

23

24 3. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
25 health benefits plan provider shall not be required to issue a pharmacy  
26 identification card separate from another identification card issued to  
27 an insured under a health benefits plan if the identification card  
28 contains the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.

29 b. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
30 health benefits plan provider may use data elements that are required  
31 by State or federal regulations adopted pursuant to the "Health  
32 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-191,  
33 in place of the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.

34

35 4. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other  
36 health benefits plan provider shall provide each primary insured with  
37 a new pharmacy identification card within a reasonable time, not to  
38 exceed 180 days, after a change in the insured's coverage that changes  
39 the information required to be on the card pursuant to section 2 of this  
40 act, if the issuance of a new card is required for proper claims  
41 adjudication. The carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or  
42 other health benefits plan provider shall not, however, be required to  
43 issue a new card more than once in a calendar year. Except as  
44 required by this section, a carrier, multiple employer welfare  
45 arrangement or other health benefits plan provider shall not be  
46 required to reissue a pharmacy identification card with any particular  
47 frequency.

1        5. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall adopt rules  
2 and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
3 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to carry out the purposes of this  
4 act.

5  
6        6. This act shall take effect on <sup>1</sup>[the 180th day after enactment]  
7 September 1, 2002<sup>1</sup> and shall apply to policies or contracts issued or  
8 renewed after the effective date.

9

10

11

12

13        \_\_\_\_\_  
14 Requires health insurers that provide prescription drug coverage to  
issue standardized pharmacy identification cards.

## CHAPTER 200

AN ACT concerning standardized pharmacy identification cards and supplementing Title 17B of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

C.17B:30-35 Definitions relative to standardized pharmacy identification cards.

1. As used in this act:

"Carrier" means an insurance company, health service corporation, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation or health maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans in this State.

"Health benefits plan" means: a health benefits plan that is delivered or issued for delivery in this State by or through a carrier; a plan provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement; or a plan provided by another benefit arrangement, to the extent permitted by the "Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-406 (29 U.S.C. s.1001 et seq.), or by any waiver of or other exception to that act provided under federal law or regulation. "Health benefits plan" shall not include accident-only insurance; credit accident and health insurance; Medicare supplement insurance; Medicaid fee-for-service; disability income insurance; long-term care insurance; specified disease insurance; dental or vision care plan; hospital indemnity insurance; coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance; medical payments under automobile or homeowners insurance; or insurance under which benefits are payable without regard to fault and that are statutorily required to be included in a liability policy or equivalent self-insurance program.

C.17B:30-36. Issuance of standardized pharmacy identification information, card to primary insured.

2. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other health benefits plan provider, or its agents, contractors or administrators, including but not limited to a pharmacy benefits manager or third party administrator for a self-insured health benefits plan, that provides, administers or manages coverage for prescription drugs provided on an outpatient basis, shall issue or require the issuance to the primary insured of a card or other technology that includes standardized pharmacy identification information.

b. The card shall comply with the standards set forth in the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs Pharmacy ID Card

Implementation Guide in effect at the time of card issuance, or, at a minimum, contain the following information:

(1) the name or identification number of the health benefits plan, when required for proper claims adjudication;

(2) the American National Standards Institute International Identification Number assigned to the administrator or pharmacy benefits manager of the health benefits plan, labeled as RxBIN, when required for proper claims adjudication;

(3) the processor control number, labeled as RxPCN, when required for proper claims adjudication;

(4) the insured's group number, labeled as RxGRP, when required for proper claims adjudication;

(5) the insured's identification number;

(6) the insured's name; except that, if a separate card is issued for another person included under the primary insured's coverage, the name of the covered person to whom the card is issued may be listed instead of the name of the primary insured;

(7) the telephone number that providers may call for pharmacy benefits assistance; and

(8) any other information necessary for proper claims adjudication, except for information provided on the prescription as required by law or regulation.

C.17B:30-37 Exceptions for issuance of card.

3. a. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other health benefits plan provider shall not be required to issue a pharmacy identification card separate from another identification card issued to an insured under a health benefits plan if the identification card contains the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.

b. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other health benefits plan provider may use data elements that are required by State or federal regulations adopted pursuant to the "Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-191, in place of the information required pursuant to section 2 of this act.

C.17B:30-38 Provision of new pharmacy identification card.

4. A carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other health benefits plan provider shall provide each primary insured with a new pharmacy identification card within a reasonable time, not to exceed 180 days, after a change in the insured's coverage that changes the information required to be on the card pursuant to section 2 of this act, if the issuance of a new card is required for proper claims adjudication. The carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other health benefits plan provider shall not, however, be required to issue a new card more than once in a calendar year. Except as required by this section, a carrier, multiple employer welfare arrangement or other health benefits plan provider shall not be required to reissue a pharmacy identification card with any particular frequency.

C.17B:30-39 Rules, regulations.

5. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to carry out the purposes of this act.

6. This act shall take effect on September 1, 2002 and shall apply to policies or contracts issued or renewed after the effective date.

Approved August 8, 2001.

# Office of the Governor

PO BOX 004  
TRENTON, NJ 08625

## NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Rae Hutton  
609-777-2600

RELEASE: Aug 8, 2001

### Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco signed the following legislation today:

**SCS-1833, 839**, sponsored by Senators Peter Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex), Anthony Bucco (R-Morris) and Diane Allen (R-Burlington/Camden) and Assembly members Rose Heck (R-Bergen) and Kevin O'Toole (R-Essex/Union), allows police and firefighters who transferred to the Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS) under a 1993 law to receive full benefits under PFRS for public safety service rendered prior to the transfer without having to pay the increased cost to the system of providing those benefits.

**A-2118**, sponsored by Senator Leonard Connors (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Ocean) and Assemblymen John Kelly (R-Bergen/Essex/Passaic) and Kevin O'Toole (R-Essex/Union), increases the number of members of the fire safety commission from 21 to 23. The role of the commission is to assist and advise the Commissioner of Community Affairs in the enforcement of the state's fire safety laws.

**A-3050**, sponsored by Assemblymen Neil Cohen (D-Union) and Nia Gill (D-Essex), termed "Leonard Cohen's Law," prohibits a licensed hospital from transferring a patient to another health care facility unless the patient is accompanied by a complete discharge summary from the transferring hospital at the time of the transfer.

**S-2050**, sponsored by Senators Andrew Ciesla (R-Monmouth/Ocean) and Richard Codey (D-Essex) and Assemblyman Alex DeCroce (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic), provides that a court, in its discretion, may award prejudgment interest on the whole or part of a judgment arising out of or relating to claims for the construction or installation of improvements to real property in accordance with principles of equity.

**S-1330**, sponsored by Senators Robert Littell (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Jack Sinagra (R-Middlesex) and Assembly members Nicholas Felice (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Charlotte Vandervalk (R-Bergen), requires health insurers that provide prescription drug coverage to issue standardized pharmacy identification cards to decrease administrative burdens and to streamline the dispensing of prescription drugs and devices.

**A-2913**, sponsored by Senator Joseph Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Assembly members Michael Arnone (R-Monmouth) and Anthony Impreveduto (D-Bergen/Hudson), prohibits "no damage for delay" clauses in certain contracts made with local units under the "Local Public Contracts Law" and the "Public Schools Contracts Law."

**A-1203**, sponsored by Assemblyman Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth), establishes the World Language Instruction Committee in the Department of Education and provides credit toward

high school graduation requirements for world language courses offered by religious and non-public school organizations.

**A-2204**, sponsored by Senators Diane Allen (R-Burlington/Camden) and Richard Codey (D-Essex) and Assemblymen Frank Blee (R-Atlantic) and Joseph Charles (D-Hudson), renames the Office of Minority Health in the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) as Office on Minority and Multicultural Health and provides additional responsibilities for the office and appropriates \$1.5 million to the new office to implement the bill.

**AJR-35**, sponsored by Assemblymen Joseph Azzolina (R-Middlesex/Monmouth) and Samuel Thompson (R-Middlesex/Monmouth), designates the third Monday in April of each year as "Patriots Day" in New Jersey.