# 45:1-56 to 45:1-60 LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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**LAWS OF: 2017 CHAPTER: 69** 

**NJSA:** 45:1-56 to 45:1-60 (Establishes "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act;" requires promulgation of standards

and regulations concerning safe handling of hazardous drugs by certain health care personnel.)

BILL NO: A837 (Substituted for S468)

**SPONSOR(S)** Jimenez and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 1/27/2016

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Health & Senior Services

**SENATE:** Health, Human Services & Senior Citizens

**Budget & Appropriations** 

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Reprint

**DATE OF PASSAGE:** ASSEMBLY: 3/16/2017

**SENATE**: 2/13/2017

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** 5/11/2017

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Third Reprint enacted)

Yes

A837

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 5 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes Health & Senior Services

**SENATE:** Yes Health, H.S. & Senior Citizens

**Budget & Appropriations** 

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

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: Yes 4/7/2016

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: Yes 3/28/2016

5/12/2016 2/10/2017

**S468** 

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 5 of introduced bill) Yes

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:** ASSEMBLY: No

**SENATE:** Yes Health, H.S. & Senior Citizens

**Budget & Appropriations** 

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

(Continued)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No **LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** Yes 2/10/2017 **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

RWH/JA

Title 45.
Subtitle 1.
Chapter 1.
Article 5.(New)
Hazardous Drug
Safe Handling
§§1-5 C.45:1-56 to
45:1-60

#### P.L.2017, CHAPTER 69, approved May 11, 2017 Assembly, No. 837 (Third Reprint)

1 AN ACT concerning safe handling of hazardous drugs and supplementing Title <sup>1</sup>[34] 45<sup>1</sup> of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act."

- 2. a. The Legislature finds and declares that:
- (1) Health care personnel who work with or near hazardous drugs in health care settings may be exposed to these agents in the air and through contact with work surfaces, clothing, medical equipment, and patients;
- (2) According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), which is part of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, early concerns about occupational exposure to anticancer drugs first appeared in the 1970s;
- (3) Antineoplastic and other hazardous drugs have been identified with a number of acute, short-term, and chronic effects, including skin rashes, infertility, miscarriage, birth defects, liver and kidney damage, damage to the bone marrow, damage to the heart and lungs, and various cancers; and
- (4) In 2004, NIOSH published an alert on preventing occupational exposures to antineoplastic drugs in health care settings. NIOSH urges that all hazardous drugs be universally handled according to standard precautions as outlined in the alert, which includes recommended procedures for assessing workplace hazards, handling hazardous drugs, and using and maintaining equipment, as well as a list of "drugs considered hazardous," which was updated in 2010, 2012, and 2014.

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly floor amendments adopted April 7, 2016.

<sup>2</sup>Senate SHH committee amendments adopted September 26, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Senate SBA committee amendments adopted January 30, 2017.

b. The Legislature therefore determines that it is the public 2 policy of the State to provide for the appropriate regulation of the handling of hazardous drugs consistent with the NIOSH alert, 4 regardless of the setting in which health care is provided, in order to protect health care personnel from potentially harmful exposure to antineoplasic and other hazardous drugs.

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#### 3. As used in this act:

"Animal or veterinary facility" means an animal or veterinary facility as defined in section 1 of P.L.1983, c.98 (C.45:16-1.1).

"Antineoplastic" means inhibiting or preventing the growth and spread of tumors or malignant cells.

<sup>1</sup>["Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development. ]1

"Hazardous drugs" means drugs that exhibit one or more of the following characteristics in humans or animals: carcinogenicity; teratogenicity or other developmental toxicity; reproductive toxicity; organ toxicity at low doses; genotoxicity; or structure and toxicity profiles that mimic existing hazardous drugs. This term includes, but is not limited to, antineoplastic drugs.

<sup>1</sup>["Health care personnel" means any individual in a health care setting or veterinary facility who works with or near, handles, comes in contact with, or otherwise touches a hazardous drug.

"Health care setting" means any facility or institution, whether public or private, engaged in medical services, including diagnosis or treatment of human disease, pain, injury, deformity or physical condition, including, but not limited to, a health care facility licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.), a pharmacy, and a boarding home for the sheltered care of adult persons, but excluding institutions that provide healing solely by prayer.

NIOSH" means the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Health care facility" means a general acute care hospital, satellite emergency department, hospital-based off-site ambulatory care facility in which ambulatory surgical procedures are performed, or ambulatory surgical facility licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.).

"Health care professional" means a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice nurse, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, pharmacist, or veterinarian licensed or certified pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised Statutes. "Health care professional" shall not include a licensed dentist or dental hygienist.

"Pharmacy practice site" means a pharmacy practice site licensed pursuant to P.L.2003, c.280 (C.45:14-40 et seq.).1

"Stakeholder group" means a group of stakeholders in the areas of health care and workplace safety, which shall consist of: a representative of the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey; a representative of the New Jersey Hospital Association; <sup>1</sup>a representative of the New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association; a representative of the Medical Society of New Jersey; 1 2a representative of the New Jersey State Society of Physician Assistants;<sup>2</sup> practicing physicians from impacted specialties including, but not limited to, oncology; pharmacists; <sup>1</sup>practicing advanced practice nurses, <sup>1</sup> registered nurses, <sup>1</sup> and licensed practical nurses, 1 including 1 at least 1 one representative from the New Jersey Chapters of the Oncology Nursing Society; three representatives from organized labor unions representing health care personnel <sup>1</sup>employed by health care professionals or employed in health care facilities, pharmacy practice sites, or animal or veterinary <u>facilities</u><sup>1</sup>, two of whom shall serve at the recommendation of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO; and other interested stakeholders.

- 4. a. No later than 12 months after the effective date of this act, <sup>1</sup>[the commissioner, in consultation with] the Commissioner of Health <sup>3</sup>[,] and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, <sup>3</sup>[and] in consultation with a stakeholder group as defined in section 3 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), shall adopt <sup>3</sup>[consensus-driven] standards and regulations in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel <sup>1</sup>employed by a health care professional or employed in a health care <sup>1</sup>[setting] facility, pharmacy practice site, <sup>1</sup> or animal or veterinary facility.
  - b. The standards and regulations to be adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel <sup>1</sup>employed by a health care professional or employed in a health care facility, pharmacy practice site, or animal or veterinary facility<sup>1</sup>, including, but not limited to:
  - (1) written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure to hazardous drugs through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of the drugs;
- (2) hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to protect health care personnel from exposure to hazardous drugs;
- (3) engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure to hazardous drugs;

- 1 (4) personal protective equipment and the circumstances under 2 which personal protective equipment shall be used by health care 3 personnel;
  - (5) safe handling practices related to hazardous drugs, including handling, receiving, storage, preparing, administering, waste handling, cleaning, housekeeping, labeling and signage, and maintenance practices;
    - (6) spill control and response procedures;
    - (7) training standards and training programs;
  - (8) requirements for recordkeeping, including records related to training sessions, qualifications, incident reports, and other pertinent information; and
  - (9) <sup>1</sup>appropriate <sup>1</sup> medical surveillance <sup>1</sup>[, which shall include provisions requiring, at a minimum, a medical evaluation] <sup>1</sup> for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs <sup>1</sup>[, at no cost to the personnel, at the time of hiring, upon exposure to hazardous drugs, and upon request when such request is related to reproductive concerns] <sup>1</sup>.
  - c. The standards and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall include <sup>1</sup>requirements for inspections by the appropriate licensing or inspection authority and <sup>1</sup> a schedule of penalties for violations of the provisions of this act or <sup>1</sup>[its] the <sup>1</sup> rules and regulations <sup>1</sup>[, which schedule may incorporate such factors as the commissioner determines are relevant to assessing penalties for violations, including any history of previous violations, the seriousness of the current violation, and any other factors which the commissioner may establish by regulation] adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section <sup>1</sup>.
  - d. The standards and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section <sup>3</sup>[, to the extent feasible,] <sup>3</sup> shall be <sup>3</sup>[consistent with and not exceed] based on <sup>3</sup> the most recent <sup>1</sup> recommendations <sup>1</sup>[in the NIOSH 2004 alert entitled "Preventing Occupational Exposures to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings." The standards and regulations may incorporate applicable updates and changes to NIOSH guidelines, and shall be reviewed by the commissioner, in consultation with a stakeholder group as defined in section 3 of P.L. ,
- c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), every two years set forth by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

5. Employers of health care personnel shall provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. This training shall take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment and on an annual basis thereafter. Such training shall be consistent with the

1	standards and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection a. of
2	section 4 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature
3	as this bill).
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5	<sup>1</sup> [6. a. This act, and its standards and regulations, shall be
6	enforced by the commissioner, who has right-of-entry to all
7	pertinent premises and records for the purposes of inspection and
8	information.
9	b. The commissioner is authorized to assess and collect
10	administrative penalties for violations of the provisions of this act
11	or its rules and regulations, consistent with the schedule of penalties
12	adopted pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending
13	before the Legislature as this bill).
14	c. No administrative penalty shall be levied pursuant to this
15	section unless the commissioner provides the alleged violator with
16	notification by certified mail of the violation and of the amount of
17	the penalty, and an opportunity to request a hearing before the
18	commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, within 15 days
19	following receipt of the notice. If a hearing is requested, the
20	commissioner shall issue a final order upon such hearing and a
21	finding that a violation has occurred. If no hearing is requested, the
22	notice shall become a final order upon expiration of the 15-day
23	period. Payment of the penalty is due when a final order is issued
24	or when the notice becomes a final order.
25	d. Any penalty imposed pursuant to this section may be
26	recovered with costs in a summary proceeding commenced by the
27	commissioner pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999,"
28	P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.). <b>]</b> <sup>1</sup>
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30	<sup>1</sup> [7.] <u>6.</u> <sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect immediately.
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Establishes "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act;" requires promulgation of standards and regulations concerning safe handling of hazardous drugs by certain health care personnel.

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# ASSEMBLY, No. 837

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## 217th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2016 SESSION

#### Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANGELICA M. JIMENEZ
District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)
Assemblyman JERRY GREEN
District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)
Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI
District 33 (Hudson)
Assemblywoman SHAVONDA E. SUMTER
District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)
Assemblywoman NANCY F. MUNOZ
District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

#### Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblymen Eustace and Singleton** 

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Establishes "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act;" requires DOLWD to promulgate standards and regulations concerning safe handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.

AN ACT concerning safe handling of hazardous drugs and supplementing Title 34 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act."

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- 2. a. The Legislature finds and declares that:
- (1) Health care personnel who work with or near hazardous drugs in health care settings may be exposed to these agents in the air and through contact with work surfaces, clothing, medical equipment, and patients;
- (2) According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), which is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, early concerns about occupational exposure to anticancer drugs first appeared in the 1970s;
- (3) Antineoplastic and other hazardous drugs have been identified with a number of acute, short-term, and chronic effects, including skin rashes, infertility, miscarriage, birth defects, liver and kidney damage, damage to the bone marrow, damage to the heart and lungs, and various cancers; and
- (4) In 2004, NIOSH published an alert on preventing occupational exposures to antineoplastic drugs in health care settings. NIOSH urges that all hazardous drugs be universally handled according to standard precautions as outlined in the alert, which includes recommended procedures for assessing workplace hazards, handling hazardous drugs, and using and maintaining equipment, as well as a list of "drugs considered hazardous," which was updated in 2010, 2012, and 2014.
- b. The Legislature therefore determines that it is the public policy of the State to provide for the appropriate regulation of the handling of hazardous drugs consistent with the NIOSH alert, regardless of the setting in which health care is provided, in order to protect health care personnel from potentially harmful exposure to

37 antineoplasic and other hazardous drugs.

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- 3. As used in this act:
- "Animal or veterinary facility" means an animal or veterinary facility as defined in section 1 of P.L.1983, c.98 (C.45:16-1.1).
- "Antineoplastic" means inhibiting or preventing the growth and spread of tumors or malignant cells.
- 44 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Labor and 45 Workforce Development.
- 46 "Hazardous drugs" means drugs that exhibit one or more of the following characteristics in humans or animals: carcinogenicity; 47 teratogenicity or other developmental toxicity; reproductive 48

toxicity; organ toxicity at low doses; genotoxicity; or structure and toxicity profiles that mimic existing hazardous drugs. This term includes, but is not limited to, antineoplastic drugs.

"Health care personnel" means any individual in a health care setting or veterinary facility who works with or near, handles, comes in contact with, or otherwise touches a hazardous drug.

"Health care setting" means any facility or institution, whether public or private, engaged in medical services, including diagnosis or treatment of human disease, pain, injury, deformity or physical condition, including, but not limited to, a health care facility licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.), a pharmacy, and a boarding home for the sheltered care of adult persons, but excluding institutions that provide healing solely by prayer.

"NIOSH" means the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Stakeholder group" means a group of stakeholders in the areas of health care and workplace safety, which shall consist of: a representative of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey; a representative of the New Jersey Hospital Association; practicing physicians from impacted specialties including, but not limited to, oncology; pharmacists; registered nurses, including one representative from the New Jersey Chapters of the Oncology Nursing Society; three representatives from organized labor unions representing health care personnel, two of whom shall serve at the recommendation of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO; and other interested stakeholders.

- 4. a. No later than 12 months after the effective date of this act, the commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, and a stakeholder group as defined in section 3 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), shall adopt consensus-driven standards and regulations in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel in a health care setting or animal or veterinary facility.
- b. The standards and regulations to be adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel, including, but not limited to:
- (1) written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure to hazardous drugs through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of the drugs;

- 1 (2) hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to 2 protect health care personnel from exposure to hazardous drugs;
  - (3) engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure to hazardous drugs;
  - (4) personal protective equipment and the circumstances under which personal protective equipment shall be used by health care personnel;
  - (5) safe handling practices related to hazardous drugs, including handling, receiving, storage, preparing, administering, waste handling, cleaning, housekeeping, labeling and signage, and maintenance practices;
    - (6) spill control and response procedures;
    - (7) training standards and training programs;
  - (8) requirements for recordkeeping, including records related to training sessions, qualifications, incident reports, and other pertinent information; and
  - (9) medical surveillance, which shall include provisions requiring, at a minimum, a medical evaluation for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs, at no cost to the personnel, at the time of hiring, upon exposure to hazardous drugs, and upon request when such request is related to reproductive concerns.
  - c. The standards and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall include a schedule of penalties for violations of the provisions of this act or its rules and regulations, which schedule may incorporate such factors as the commissioner determines are relevant to assessing penalties for violations, including any history of previous violations, the seriousness of the current violation, and any other factors which the commissioner may establish by regulation.
  - d. The standards and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section, to the extent feasible, shall be consistent with and not exceed recommendations in the NIOSH 2004 alert entitled "Preventing Occupational Exposures to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings." The standards and regulations may incorporate applicable updates and changes to NIOSH guidelines, and shall be reviewed by the commissioner, in consultation with a stakeholder group as defined in section 3 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), every two years.

5. Employers of health care personnel shall provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. This training shall take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment and on an annual basis thereafter. Such training shall be consistent with the standards and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection a. of

1	section 4 of P.L.	, c.	(C.	) (pending before the Legislature
2	as this bill).			

6. a. This act, and its standards and regulations, shall be enforced by the commissioner, who has right-of-entry to all pertinent premises and records for the purposes of inspection and information.

b. The commissioner is authorized to assess and collect administrative penalties for violations of the provisions of this act or its rules and regulations, consistent with the schedule of penalties adopted pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

- c. No administrative penalty shall be levied pursuant to this section unless the commissioner provides the alleged violator with notification by certified mail of the violation and of the amount of the penalty, and an opportunity to request a hearing before the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, within 15 days following receipt of the notice. If a hearing is requested, the commissioner shall issue a final order upon such hearing and a finding that a violation has occurred. If no hearing is requested, the notice shall become a final order upon expiration of the 15-day period. Payment of the penalty is due when a final order is issued or when the notice becomes a final order.
- d. Any penalty imposed pursuant to this section may be recovered with costs in a summary proceeding commenced by the commissioner pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).

7. This act shall take effect immediately.

#### **STATEMENT**

This bill establishes the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," which would require the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development ("commissioner") to promulgate rules and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel. Hazardous drugs, including antineoplastic drugs used in chemotherapy, have been associated with a number of adverse acute, short-term, and chronic effects, including skin rashes, infertility, miscarriage, birth defects, various cancers, and damage to the liver, kidneys, bone marrow, heart, and lungs.

Under the bill, no later than 12 months after the effective date, the commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, and a stakeholder group comprised of certain members as set forth in the bill, will be required to adopt consensus-driven standards and regulations concerning the handling

of hazardous drugs by health care personnel in a health care setting or an animal or veterinary facility. The standards and regulations will describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel.

The standards and regulations may include, but are not limited to: (1) written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of hazardous drugs; (2) hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to protect health care personnel from exposure; (3) engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure; (4) personal protective equipment and the circumstances under which personal protective equipment must be used by health care personnel; (5) safe handling practices, including handling, receiving, storage, preparing, administering, waste handling, cleaning, housekeeping, labeling and signage, and maintenance practices; (6) spill control and response procedures; (7) training standards and practices; (8) requirements for recordkeeping, including records related to training sessions, qualifications, incident reports, and other pertinent information; and (9) medical surveillance, including, at a minimum, a medical evaluation for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs, at no cost to the personnel, at the time of hiring, upon exposure to hazardous drugs, and upon request when such request is related to reproductive concerns.

These standards and regulations would also include a schedule of penalties for violations, which may incorporate such factors as the commissioner determines relevant to assessing penalties for violations, including any history of previous violations, the seriousness of the current violation, and any other factors which the commissioner may establish by regulation.

In addition, the standards and regulations would, to the extent feasible, be consistent with and not exceed recommendations in the 2004 alert by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, entitled "Preventing Occupational Exposures to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings." The standards and regulations may incorporate applicable updates and changes to NIOSH guidelines, and the bill would require the standards and regulations be reviewed by the commissioner, in consultation with a stakeholder group, every two years.

Employers of health care personnel will be required to provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. The training will take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment, and on an annual basis thereafter.

#### **A837** JIMENEZ, GREEN

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1 The commissioner will enforce the provisions of the bill, and 2 will have right-of-entry to all pertinent premises and records for the 3 purposes of inspection and information. The commissioner will be authorized to assess and collect administrative penalties for 4 5 violations of the bill consistent with the schedule of penalties set 6 forth in regulation. The bill would prohibit levying an 7 administrative penalty unless the commissioner provides the alleged 8 violator with notification, by certified mail, of the violation and of 9 the amount of the penalty, and an opportunity to request a hearing before the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, within 15 10 11 days following receipt of the notice. If a hearing is requested, the 12 commissioner would issue a final order upon such hearing and a 13 finding that a violation has occurred. If no hearing is requested, the 14 notice would become a final order upon expiration of the 15-day 15 period. Payment of the penalty would be due when a final order is 16 issued or when the notice becomes a final order.

#### ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

#### ASSEMBLY, No. 837

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 7, 2016

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 837.

This bill establishes the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," which requires the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development ("commissioner") to promulgate rules and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel. Hazardous drugs, including antineoplastic drugs used in chemotherapy, have been associated with a number of adverse acute, short-term, and chronic effects, including skin rashes, infertility, miscarriage, birth defects, various cancers, and damage to the liver, kidneys, bone marrow, heart, and lungs.

Under the bill, no later than 12 months after the effective date, the commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, and a stakeholder group comprised of certain members as set forth in the bill, will be required to adopt consensus-driven standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel in a health care setting or an animal or veterinary facility. The standards and regulations will describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel.

The standards and regulations may include, but are not limited to: (1) written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of hazardous drugs; (2) hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to protect health care personnel from exposure; (3) engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure; (4) personal protective equipment and the circumstances under which personal protective equipment must be used by health care personnel; (5) safe handling practices, including handling, receiving, storage, preparing, administering, waste handling, cleaning, housekeeping, labeling and signage, and maintenance practices; (6) spill control and response procedures; (7) training standards and practices; (8) requirements for recordkeeping, including records related to training sessions, qualifications, incident reports, and other pertinent information; and (9) medical surveillance, including, at a minimum, a medical evaluation for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs, at no cost to the personnel, at the time of hiring, upon exposure to hazardous drugs, and upon request when such request is related to reproductive concerns.

These standards and regulations will also include a schedule of penalties for violations, which may incorporate such factors as the commissioner determines relevant to assessing penalties for violations, including any history of previous violations, the seriousness of the current violation, and any other factors which the commissioner may establish by regulation.

In addition, the standards and regulations will, to the extent feasible, be consistent with and not exceed recommendations in the 2004 alert by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, entitled "Preventing Occupational Exposures to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings." The standards and regulations may incorporate applicable updates and changes to NIOSH guidelines, and the bill will require the standards and regulations be reviewed by the commissioner, in consultation with a stakeholder group, every two years.

Employers of health care personnel will be required to provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. The training will take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment, and on an annual basis thereafter.

The commissioner will enforce the provisions of the bill, and will have right-of-entry to all pertinent premises and records for the purposes of inspection and information. The commissioner will be authorized to assess and collect administrative penalties for violations of the bill consistent with the schedule of penalties set forth in regulation. The bill will prohibit the commissioner from imposing an administrative penalty unless the commissioner provides the alleged violator with notification, by certified mail, of the violation and of the amount of the penalty, and an opportunity to request a hearing before the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, within 15 days following receipt of the notice. hearing is requested, the commissioner may issue a final order after holding the hearing and finding that a violation occurred. If no hearing is requested, the notice will become a final order upon expiration of the 15-day period. Payment of the penalty will be due when a final order is issued or when the notice becomes a final order.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2016-2017 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

### SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

# [First Reprint] ASSEMBLY, No. 837

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 26, 2016

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 837 (1R).

As amended by the committee, this bill, to be known as the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," would require the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in conjunction with a stakeholder group as defined by the bill, to adopt consensus-driven standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility.

The standards and regulations will describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel. The standards and regulations may include, but are not limited to: (1) written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of hazardous drugs; (2) hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to protect health care personnel from exposure; (3) engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure; (4) personal protective equipment and the circumstances under which personal protective equipment must be used by health care personnel; (5) safe handling practices, including handling, receiving, storage, preparing, administering, waste handling, cleaning, housekeeping, labeling and signage, and maintenance practices; (6) spill control and response procedures; (7) training standards and practices; (8) requirements for recordkeeping, including records related to training sessions, qualifications, incident reports, and other pertinent information; and (9) appropriate medical surveillance for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs.

These standards and regulations will also include requirements for inspections by the appropriate authorities and a schedule of penalties for violations.

In addition, the standards and regulations will, to the extent feasible, be consistent with and not exceed the most recent recommendations set forth by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Employers of health care personnel will be required to provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. The training will take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment, and on an annual basis thereafter.

The committee amended the bill to require that the stakeholder group include a representative of the New Jersey State Society of Physician Assistants.

As reported, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 468 (1R) (Sacco), which the committee also reported favorably on this date.

#### SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

# [Second Reprint] ASSEMBLY, No. 837

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 30, 2017

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 837 (2R), with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill, the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," requires the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with a defined group of stakeholders in the areas of health care and workplace safety, to adopt standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel employed by a health care professional or employed in a health care facility, pharmacy practice site, or animal or veterinary facility.

The bill requires these standards and regulations to describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel including, but not limited to:

- -- written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of hazardous drugs;
- -- hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to protect health care personnel from exposure to hazardous drugs;
- -- engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure to hazardous drugs;
- -- personal protective equipment and the circumstances under which that equipment must be used by health care personnel;
  - -- safe handling practices related to hazardous drugs;
  - -- spill control and response procedures;
  - -- training standards and training programs;
  - -- requirements for recordkeeping; and
- -- appropriate medical surveillance for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs.

The bill also requires the standards and regulations to include requirements for inspections by the appropriate licensing or inspection authority, to provide a schedule of penalties for violations of the bill (or the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to the bill), and to be based on the most recent recommendations set forth by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In addition, the bill requires employers of health care personnel to provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. The bill specifies that this training is to take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment and on an annual basis thereafter.

As amended and reported, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 468 (1R), as also amended and reported by the committee.

#### **COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:**

The amendments clarify the role of the stakeholder group in adopting standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel as required by the bill, and direct those standards and regulations to be adopted based on the most recent recommendations set forth by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates the bill may result in an indeterminate increase in revenues from penalties collected for violations of the bill or its standards and regulations, offset by an indeterminate increase in costs to administer and enforce those provisions. The OLS notes the bill may result in an indeterminate increase in costs due to implementation of standards and regulations promulgated under the bill to: University Hospital, an independent non-profit legal entity that is an instrumentality of the State located in Newark; and Bergen Regional Medical Center, a county-owned entity located in Paramus.

Certain State licensing and inspection authorities within the Department of Health and the Department of Law and Public Safety are expected to incur minimal staff and administrative expenses as the result of increased inspection responsibilities in regard to assessing the compliance of health care professionals, pharmacy practice sites, health care facilities, and animal or veterinary facilities with the provisions of this bill or its standards and regulations.

The OLS is unable to determine the revenues generated by penalties under this bill as the penalty schedule is to be established by the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the stakeholder group, following enactment of the bill. Additionally, the OLS cannot determine the number of infractions that personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility may commit under the bill.

As with the penalty schedule, the OLS cannot determine the costs to University Hospital and Bergen Regional Medical Center resulting from the implementation of the standards and regulations promulgated under the bill as those standards and regulations have not been adopted. Further, the OLS cannot determine how current procedures for the handling of hazardous drugs in these two facilities may differ or align with any future adopted standards and regulations.

#### STATEMENT TO

#### ASSEMBLY, No. 837

with Assembly Floor Amendments (Proposed by Assemblywoman JIMENEZ)

ADOPTED: APRIL 7, 2016

These floor amendments clarify which professionals and facilities will be subject to the safe drug handling requirements established under the bill. Specifically, the bill provides that the requirements will apply to personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility. "Health care facility" is defined to mean a licensed general acute care hospital, satellite emergency department, hospital-based off-site ambulatory care facility at which ambulatory surgical procedures are performed, and ambulatory surgical facility. "Health care professional" is defined under the bill as a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice nurse, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, pharmacist, or veterinarian. The amendments expressly provide that the safe drug handling requirements will not apply to dentists or dental hygienists. The amendments revise the membership of the stakeholder group established under the bill to include licensed practical nurses, advanced practice nurses, a representative of the New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association, and a representative of the Medical Society of New Jersey.

The amendments eliminate the role of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD) in implementing and enforcing the provisions of the bill and remove certain provisions setting forth express requirements concerning inspections and penalties for violations. Instead, the Commissioner of Health, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, and the stakeholder group established under the bill will jointly promulgate the required regulations. The provisions of the bill, including any relevant rules and regulations, will be enforced by the licensing authority having oversight over a given health care professional or facility. The amendments eliminate certain specific requirements concerning medical surveillance for health care personnel, which will instead be established in the joint regulations.

The amendments eliminate a requirement that the safe drug handling requirements are to be consistent with, but not exceed, the 2004 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) alert titled "Preventing Occupational Exposures to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings," and instead provide that the standards established under the bill are to be consistent with, but not exceed, current NIOSH recommendations. The amendments eliminate a requirement that the safe drug handling standards be reviewed every two years.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 837 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

**DATED: MARCH 28, 2016** 

#### **SUMMARY**

Synopsis: Establishes "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act;" requires DOLWD

to promulgate standards and regulations concerning safe handling of

hazardous drugs by health care personnel.

**Type of Impact:** Minimal increase in revenues to the State General Fund, offset by

minimal costs.

**Agencies Affected:** Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

#### Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	Year 1	<u>Year 2</u>	Year 3	
State Cost		Minimal – See comments below.		
State Revenue		Minimal – See comments below.		

 The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that this bill may result in a minimal increase in revenues from penalties collected for violations of the provisions of the bill or its rules and regulations, offset by a minimal increase in costs to administer and enforce those provisions.

#### **BILL DESCRIPTION**

Assembly Bill, No. 837 of 2016 establishes the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," which would require the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development to promulgate rules and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel in a healthcare setting or an animal or veterinary facility.

These rules and regulations would also include a schedule of penalties for violations, which may incorporate such factors as the commissioner determines relevant, including any history of previous violations and the seriousness of the current violation.

The commissioner will enforce the provisions of the bill and will be authorized to assess and collect administrative penalties for violations of the bill. The bill would prohibit levying an administrative penalty unless the commissioner provides the alleged violator with



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notification and an opportunity to request a hearing within 15 days following receipt of the notice. Payment of the penalty would be due when a final order is issued upon such hearing and a finding that a violation has occurred or when the notice becomes a final order upon expiration of the 15-day period.

#### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

#### OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS estimates that this bill may result in a minimal increase in revenues from penalties collected for violations of the provisions of the bill or its rules and regulations, offset by a minimal increase in costs to administer and enforce those provisions.

The commissioner would be responsible for assessing and collecting all administrative penalties charged to healthcare facilities or institutions and animal or veterinary facilities found to be in violation of the provisions of this bill or its rules and regulations. The OLS is unable to determine the cost of these penalties as the commissioner would have discretion over the penalty schedule. Furthermore, the OLS cannot determine the number of infractions that healthcare facilities or institutions and animal or veterinary facilities may commit under the bill.

Section: Commerce, Labor and Industry

Analyst: Sarah Schmidt

Assistant Research Analyst

Approved: Frank W. Haines III

Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

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

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

#### LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

# ASSEMBLY, No. 837 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

DATED: MAY 12, 2016

#### **SUMMARY**

Synopsis: Establishes "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act;" requires

promulgation of standards and regulations concerning safe handling

of hazardous drugs by certain health care personnel.

Type of Impact: Minimal increase in revenues to the State General Fund, offset by

minimal costs.

**Agencies Affected:** Department of Health and Department of Law and Public Safety.

#### Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	Year 1	<u>Year 2</u>	Year 3	
State Cost		Minimal – See comments below.		
State Revenue		Minimal – See comments below.		

 The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that this bill may result in a minimal increase in revenues from penalties collected for violations of the provisions of the bill or its rules and regulations, offset by a minimal increase in costs to administer and enforce those provisions.

#### **BILL DESCRIPTION**

Assembly Bill No. 837 (1R) of 2016 establishes the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," which would require the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in conjunction with a stakeholder group as defined by the bill, to adopt consensus-driven standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility. These standards and regulations would also include requirements for inspections by the appropriate licensing or inspection authority and a schedule of penalties for violations.



#### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### **EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

None received.

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

The OLS estimates that this bill may result in a minimal increase in revenues from penalties collected for violations of the provisions of the bill or its standards and regulations, offset by a minimal increase in costs to administer and enforce those provisions.

Certain State licensing and inspection authorities within the Department of Health and the Department of Law and Public Safety would incur minimal staff and administrative expenses as the result of increased inspection responsibilities in regard to assessing the compliance of health care professionals, pharmacy practice sites, health care facilities, and animal or veterinary facilities with the provisions of this bill or its standards and regulations.

The OLS is unable to determine the revenues generated by penalties under this bill as the penalty schedule is yet to be established by the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in conjunction with a stakeholder group as defined by the bill. Furthermore, the OLS cannot determine the number of infractions that personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility may commit under the bill.

Section: Commerce, Labor and Industry

Analyst: Sarah Schmidt

Assistant Research Analyst

Approved: Frank W. Haines III

Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

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

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

#### LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[Third Reprint]

# ASSEMBLY, No. 837 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

DATED: FEBRUARY 10, 2017

#### **SUMMARY**

Synopsis: Establishes "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act;" requires

promulgation of standards and regulations concerning safe handling

of hazardous drugs by certain health care personnel.

Type of Impact: Indeterminate increase in revenues to the State General Fund, offset

by indeterminate costs; Indeterminate costs to University Hospital and

Bergen Regional Medical Center.

Agencies Affected: Department of Health, Department of Law and Public Safety,

University Hospital, and Bergen Regional Medical Center.

#### Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
State Government Cost –			
Increase in Staff and			
Administrative Expenses		Indeterminate – See comments below.	
State Government Cost –			
Implementation of Standards			
and Regulations at			
University Hospital		Indeterminate – See comments below.	
State Government Revenue			
Increase – Penalty Collection		Indeterminate – See comments below.	
Local Government Cost –			
Implementation of Standards			
and Regulations at Bergen			
Regional Medical Center		Indeterminate – See comments below.	

• The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that the enactment of Assembly Bill No. 837 (3R) of 2016 may result in an indeterminate increase in State revenues from penalties collected for violations of the provisions of the bill or its rules and regulations, offset by an indeterminate increase in State staff and administrative costs to implement and enforce those provisions. The OLS notes, however, that it is plausible that any expenses associated with



this bill may be absorbed by existing operating and personnel budgets, thereby minimizing or avoiding an increase in cost.

• The OLS notes that the enactment of the bill may result in an indeterminate increase in State and local costs due to the implementation of standards and regulations promulgated under the bill to: a) University Hospital, an independent non-profit legal entity that is an instrumentality of the State located in Newark; and b) Bergen Regional Medical Center, a county-owned entity located in Paramus.

#### **BILL DESCRIPTION**

Assembly Bill No. 837 (3R) of 2016 establishes the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," which would require the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with a stakeholder group as defined by the bill, to adopt standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility. These standards and regulations would also include requirements for inspections by the appropriate licensing or inspection authority and a schedule of penalties for violations.

#### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

#### OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS concludes that the enactment of Assembly Bill No. 837 (3R) of 2016 may result in an indeterminate increase in State revenues from penalties collected for violations of the provisions of the bill or its standards and regulations, offset by an indeterminate increase in State staff and administrative costs to implement and enforce those provisions. The OLS notes that the enactment of the bill may result in an indeterminate increase in State and local costs due to the implementation of standards and regulations promulgated under the bill to: a) University Hospital, an independent non-profit legal entity that is an instrumentality of the State located in Newark; and b) Bergen Regional Medical Center, a county-owned entity located in Paramus.

Certain State licensing and inspection authorities within the Department of Health and the Department of Law and Public Safety may incur indeterminate staff and administrative expenses as the result of increased inspection responsibilities in regard to assessing the compliance of health care professionals, pharmacy practice sites, health care facilities, and animal or veterinary facilities with the provisions of this bill or its standards and regulations. The OLS notes, however, that it is plausible that any expenses associated with this bill may be absorbed by such authorities' existing operating and personnel budgets, thereby minimizing or avoiding an increase in cost.

The OLS is unable to determine the revenues generated by penalties under this bill as the penalty schedule is yet to be established by the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation

with a stakeholder group as defined by the bill. Furthermore, the OLS cannot determine the number of infractions that personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility may commit under the bill.

As with the penalty schedule, the OLS is unable to determine the costs to University Hospital and Bergen Regional Medical Center resulting from the implementation of standards and regulations promulgated under the bill as such standards and regulations have yet to be adopted. Furthermore, the OLS is not able to determine how the current procedures for the handling of hazardous drugs in these two facilities would differ or align with any standards and regulations adopted following the enactment of this bill.

Section: Commerce, Labor and Industry

Analyst: Sarah Schmidt

Associate Research Analyst

Approved: Frank W. Haines III

Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

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

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

# SENATE, No. 468

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# 217th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2016 SESSION

Sponsored by: Senator NICHOLAS J. SACCO District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Establishes "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act;" requires DOLWD to promulgate standards and regulations concerning safe handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



**AN ACT** concerning safe handling of hazardous drugs and supplementing Title 34 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act."

- 2. a. The Legislature finds and declares that:
- (1) Health care personnel who work with or near hazardous drugs in health care settings may be exposed to these agents in the air and through contact with work surfaces, clothing, medical equipment, and patients;
- (2) According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), which is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, early concerns about occupational exposure to anticancer drugs first appeared in the 1970s;
- (3) Antineoplastic and other hazardous drugs have been identified with a number of acute, short-term, and chronic effects, including skin rashes, infertility, miscarriage, birth defects, liver and kidney damage, damage to the bone marrow, damage to the heart and lungs, and various cancers; and
- (4) In 2004, NIOSH published an alert on preventing occupational exposures to antineoplastic drugs in health care settings. NIOSH urges that all hazardous drugs be universally handled according to standard precautions as outlined in the alert, which includes recommended procedures for assessing workplace hazards, handling hazardous drugs, and using and maintaining equipment, as well as a list of "drugs considered hazardous," which was updated in 2010, 2012, and 2014.
- b. The Legislature therefore determines that it is the public policy of the State to provide for the appropriate regulation of the handling of hazardous drugs consistent with the NIOSH alert, regardless of the setting in which health care is provided, in order to protect health care personnel from potentially harmful exposure to antineoplasic and other hazardous drugs.

- 3. As used in this act:
- "Animal or veterinary facility" means an animal or veterinary facility as defined in section 1 of P.L.1983, c.98 (C.45:16-1.1).
- "Antineoplastic" means inhibiting or preventing the growth and spread of tumors or malignant cells.
- "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development.
- "Hazardous drugs" means drugs that exhibit one or more of the following characteristics in humans or animals: carcinogenicity; teratogenicity or other developmental toxicity; reproductive

toxicity; organ toxicity at low doses; genotoxicity; or structure and toxicity profiles that mimic existing hazardous drugs. This term includes, but is not limited to, antineoplastic drugs.

"Health care personnel" means any individual in a health care setting or veterinary facility who works with or near, handles, comes in contact with, or otherwise touches a hazardous drug.

"Health care setting" means any facility or institution, whether public or private, engaged in medical services, including diagnosis or treatment of human disease, pain, injury, deformity or physical condition, including, but not limited to, a health care facility licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.), a pharmacy, and a boarding home for the sheltered care of adult persons, but excluding institutions that provide healing solely by prayer.

"NIOSH" means the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Stakeholder group" means a group of stakeholders in the areas of health care and workplace safety, which shall consist of: a representative of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey; a representative of the New Jersey Hospital Association; practicing physicians from impacted specialties including, but not limited to, oncology; pharmacists; registered nurses, including one representative from the New Jersey Chapters of the Oncology Nursing Society; three representatives from organized labor unions representing health care personnel, two of whom shall serve at the recommendation of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO; and other interested stakeholders.

- 4. a. No later than 12 months after the effective date of this act, the commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, and a stakeholder group as defined in section 3 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), shall adopt consensus-driven standards and regulations in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel in a health care setting or animal or veterinary facility.
- b. The standards and regulations to be adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel, including, but not limited to:
- (1) written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure to hazardous drugs through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of the drugs;

- 1 (2) hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to 2 protect health care personnel from exposure to hazardous drugs;
  - (3) engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure to hazardous drugs;
  - (4) personal protective equipment and the circumstances under which personal protective equipment shall be used by health care personnel;
  - (5) safe handling practices related to hazardous drugs, including handling, receiving, storage, preparing, administering, waste handling, cleaning, housekeeping, labeling and signage, and maintenance practices;
    - (6) spill control and response procedures;
    - (7) training standards and training programs;
  - (8) requirements for recordkeeping, including records related to training sessions, qualifications, incident reports, and other pertinent information; and
  - (9) medical surveillance, which shall include provisions requiring, at a minimum, a medical evaluation for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs, at no cost to the personnel, at the time of hiring, upon exposure to hazardous drugs, and upon request when such request is related to reproductive concerns.
  - c. The standards and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall include a schedule of penalties for violations of the provisions of this act or its rules and regulations, which schedule may incorporate such factors as the commissioner determines are relevant to assessing penalties for violations, including any history of previous violations, the seriousness of the current violation, and any other factors which the commissioner may establish by regulation.
  - d. The standards and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this section, to the extent feasible, shall be consistent with and not exceed recommendations in the NIOSH 2004 alert entitled "Preventing Occupational Exposures to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings." The standards and regulations may incorporate applicable updates and changes to NIOSH guidelines, and shall be reviewed by the commissioner, in consultation with a stakeholder group as defined in section 3 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), every two years.

5. Employers of health care personnel shall provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. This training shall take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment and on an annual basis thereafter. Such training shall be consistent with the standards and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection a. of

1	section 4 of P.L.	, c.	(C.	) (pending before the Legislature
2	as this bill).			

6. a. This act, and its standards and regulations, shall be enforced by the commissioner, who has right-of-entry to all pertinent premises and records for the purposes of inspection and information.

b. The commissioner is authorized to assess and collect administrative penalties for violations of the provisions of this act or its rules and regulations, consistent with the schedule of penalties adopted pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

- c. No administrative penalty shall be levied pursuant to this section unless the commissioner provides the alleged violator with notification by certified mail of the violation and of the amount of the penalty, and an opportunity to request a hearing before the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, within 15 days following receipt of the notice. If a hearing is requested, the commissioner shall issue a final order upon such hearing and a finding that a violation has occurred. If no hearing is requested, the notice shall become a final order upon expiration of the 15-day period. Payment of the penalty is due when a final order is issued or when the notice becomes a final order.
- d. Any penalty imposed pursuant to this section may be recovered with costs in a summary proceeding commenced by the commissioner pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).

7. This act shall take effect immediately.

#### **STATEMENT**

This bill establishes the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," which would require the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development ("commissioner") to promulgate rules and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel. Hazardous drugs, including antineoplastic drugs used in chemotherapy, have been associated with a number of adverse acute, short-term, and chronic effects, including skin rashes, infertility, miscarriage, birth defects, various cancers, and damage to the liver, kidneys, bone marrow, heart, and lungs.

Under the bill, no later than 12 months after the effective date, the commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, and a stakeholder group comprised of certain members as set forth in the bill, will be required to adopt consensus-driven standards and regulations concerning the handling

of hazardous drugs by health care personnel in a health care setting or an animal or veterinary facility. The standards and regulations will describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel.

The standards and regulations may include, but are not limited to: (1) written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of hazardous drugs; (2) hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to protect health care personnel from exposure; (3) engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure; (4) personal protective equipment and the circumstances under which personal protective equipment must be used by health care personnel; (5) safe handling practices, including handling, receiving, storage, preparing, administering, waste handling, cleaning, housekeeping, labeling and signage, and maintenance practices; (6) spill control and response procedures; (7) training standards and practices; (8) requirements for recordkeeping, including records related to training sessions, qualifications, incident reports, and other pertinent information; and (9) medical surveillance, including, at a minimum, a medical evaluation for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs, at no cost to the personnel, at the time of hiring, upon exposure to hazardous drugs, and upon request when such request is related to reproductive concerns.

These standards and regulations would also include a schedule of penalties for violations, which may incorporate such factors as the commissioner determines relevant to assessing penalties for violations, including any history of previous violations, the seriousness of the current violation, and any other factors which the commissioner may establish by regulation.

In addition, the standards and regulations would, to the extent feasible, be consistent with and not exceed recommendations in the 2004 alert by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, entitled "Preventing Occupational Exposures to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings." The standards and regulations may incorporate applicable updates and changes to NIOSH guidelines, and the bill would require the standards and regulations be reviewed by the commissioner, in consultation with a stakeholder group, every two years.

Employers of health care personnel will be required to provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. The training will take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment, and on an annual basis thereafter.

#### S468 SACCO

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1 The commissioner will enforce the provisions of the bill, and 2 will have right-of-entry to all pertinent premises and records for the 3 purposes of inspection and information. The commissioner will be authorized to assess and collect administrative penalties for 4 5 violations of the bill consistent with the schedule of penalties set 6 forth in regulation. The bill would prohibit levying an 7 administrative penalty unless the commissioner provides the alleged 8 violator with notification, by certified mail, of the violation and of 9 the amount of the penalty, and an opportunity to request a hearing before the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, within 15 10 11 days following receipt of the notice. If a hearing is requested, the 12 commissioner would issue a final order upon such hearing and a 13 finding that a violation has occurred. If no hearing is requested, the 14 notice would become a final order upon expiration of the 15-day 15 period. Payment of the penalty would be due when a final order is 16 issued or when the notice becomes a final order.

# SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

### STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 468

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 26, 2016

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 468.

As amended by the committee, this bill, to be known as the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," would require the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in conjunction with a stakeholder group as defined by the bill, to adopt consensus-driven standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility.

The standards and regulations will describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel. The standards and regulations may include, but are not limited to: (1) written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of hazardous drugs; (2) hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to protect health care personnel from exposure; (3) engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure; (4) personal protective equipment and the circumstances under which personal protective equipment must be used by health care personnel; (5) safe handling practices, including handling, receiving, storage, preparing, administering, waste handling, cleaning, housekeeping, labeling and signage, and maintenance practices; (6) spill control and response procedures; (7) training standards and practices; (8) requirements for recordkeeping, including records related to training sessions, qualifications, incident reports, and other pertinent information; and (9) appropriate medical surveillance for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs.

These standards and regulations will also include requirements for inspections by the appropriate authorities and a schedule of penalties for violations.

In addition, the standards and regulations will, to the extent feasible, be consistent with and not exceed the most recent recommendations set forth by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Employers of health care personnel will be required to provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. The training will take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment, and on an annual basis thereafter.

The committee amended the bill to clarify which professionals and facilities will be subject to the safe drug handling requirements established under the bill. Specifically, the bill provides that the requirements will apply to personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility. "Health care facility" is defined to mean a licensed general acute care hospital, satellite emergency department, hospitalbased off-site ambulatory care facility at which ambulatory surgical procedures are performed, and ambulatory surgical facility. "Health care professional" is defined under the bill as a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice nurse, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, pharmacist, or veterinarian. The amendments expressly provide that the safe drug handling requirements will not apply to dentists or dental hygienists. The amendments revise the membership of the stakeholder group established under the bill to include licensed practical nurses, advanced practice nurses, a representative of the New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association, a representative of the Medical Society of New Jersey, and a representative of the New Jersey State Society of Physician Assistants.

The amendments eliminate the role of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD) in implementing and enforcing the provisions of the bill and remove certain provisions setting forth express requirements concerning inspections and penalties for violations. Instead, the Commissioner of Health, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, and the stakeholder group established under the bill will jointly promulgate the required regulations. The provisions of the bill, including any relevant rules and regulations, will be enforced by the licensing authority having oversight over a given health care professional or facility. The amendments eliminate certain specific requirements concerning medical surveillance for health care personnel, which will instead be established in the joint regulations.

The amendments eliminate a requirement that the safe drug handling requirements are to be consistent with, but not exceed, the 2004 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) alert titled "Preventing Occupational Exposures to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings," and instead provide that the standards established under the bill are to be consistent with, but not exceed, current NIOSH recommendations. The amendments eliminate a requirement that the safe drug handling standards be reviewed every two years.

As reported, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 837 (2R) (Jimenez/Green/Mukherji/Sumter/Munoz), which the committee also reported favorably on this date.

## SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

### STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 468** 

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 30, 2017

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 468 (1R), with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill, the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," requires the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with a defined group of stakeholders in the areas of health care and workplace safety, to adopt standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel employed by a health care professional or employed in a health care facility, pharmacy practice site, or animal or veterinary facility.

The bill requires these standards and regulations to describe the hazardous drugs for which handling is to be regulated, the methods and procedures for handling such drugs, an implementation plan, and such other requirements as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of health care personnel including, but not limited to:

- -- written, site-specific hazardous drug control programs to avoid occupational exposure through transporting, compounding, administering, disposing, or other handling of hazardous drugs;
- -- hazard assessments to determine precautions necessary to protect health care personnel from exposure to hazardous drugs;
- -- engineering controls to eliminate or minimize exposure to hazardous drugs;
- -- personal protective equipment and the circumstances under which that equipment must be used by health care personnel;
  - -- safe handling practices related to hazardous drugs;
  - -- spill control and response procedures;
  - -- training standards and training programs;
  - -- requirements for recordkeeping; and
- -- appropriate medical surveillance for health care personnel who directly handle hazardous drugs.

The bill also requires the standards and regulations to include requirements for inspections by the appropriate licensing or inspection authority, to provide a schedule of penalties for violations of the bill (or the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to the bill), and to be based on the most recent recommendations set forth by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In addition, the bill requires employers of health care personnel to provide hazardous drugs training to all employees who have or are likely to have occupational exposure to hazardous drugs. The bill specifies that this training is to take place at the time of the employee's initial job assignment and on an annual basis thereafter.

As amended and reported, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 837 (2R), as also amended and reported by the committee.

#### **COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:**

The amendments clarify the role of the stakeholder group in adopting standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by health care personnel as required by the bill, and direct those standards and regulations to be adopted based on the most recent recommendations set forth by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates the bill may result in an indeterminate increase in revenues from penalties collected for violations of the bill or its standards and regulations, offset by an indeterminate increase in costs to administer and enforce those provisions. The OLS notes the bill may result in an indeterminate increase in costs due to implementation of standards and regulations promulgated under the bill to: University Hospital, an independent non-profit legal entity that is an instrumentality of the State located in Newark; and Bergen Regional Medical Center, a county-owned entity located in Paramus.

Certain State licensing and inspection authorities within the Department of Health and the Department of Law and Public Safety are expected to incur minimal staff and administrative expenses as the result of increased inspection responsibilities in regard to assessing the compliance of health care professionals, pharmacy practice sites, health care facilities, and animal or veterinary facilities with the provisions of this bill or its standards and regulations.

The OLS is unable to determine the revenues generated by penalties under this bill as the penalty schedule is to be established by the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the stakeholder group, following enactment of the bill. Additionally, the OLS cannot determine the number of infractions that personnel employed by a health care professional,

pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility may commit under the bill.

As with the penalty schedule, the OLS cannot determine the costs to University Hospital and Bergen Regional Medical Center resulting from the implementation of the standards and regulations promulgated under the bill as those standards and regulations have not been adopted. Further, the OLS cannot determine how current procedures for the handling of hazardous drugs in these two facilities may differ or align with any future adopted standards and regulations.

## LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[Second Reprint]

# SENATE, No. 468 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

DATED: FEBRUARY 10, 2017

#### **SUMMARY**

Synopsis: Establishes "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act;" requires

promulgation of standards and regulations concerning safe handling

of hazardous drugs by certain health care personnel.

Type of Impact: Indeterminate increase in revenues to the State General Fund, offset

by indeterminate costs; Indeterminate costs to University Hospital and

Bergen Regional Medical Center.

Agencies Affected: Department of Health, Department of Law and Public Safety,

University Hospital, and Bergen Regional Medical Center.

#### Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
State Government Cost –			
Increase in Staff and			
Administrative Expenses		Indeterminate – See comments below.	
State Government Cost –			
Implementation of Standards			
and Regulations at			
University Hospital		Indeterminate – See comments below.	
<b>State Government Revenue</b>			
Increase – Penalty Collection		Indeterminate – See comments below.	
<b>Local Government Cost –</b>			
Implementation of Standards			
and Regulations at Bergen			
Regional Medical Center		Indeterminate – See comments below.	

• The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that the enactment of Senate Bill No. 468 (2R) of 2016 may result in an indeterminate increase in State revenues from penalties collected for violations of the provisions of the bill or its rules and regulations, offset by an indeterminate increase in State staff and administrative costs to implement and enforce those provisions. The OLS notes, however, that it is plausible that any expenses associated with



this bill may be absorbed by existing operating and personnel budgets, thereby minimizing or avoiding an increase in cost.

• The OLS notes that the enactment of the bill may result in an indeterminate increase in State and local costs due to the implementation of standards and regulations promulgated under the bill to: a) University Hospital, an independent non-profit legal entity that is an instrumentality of the State located in Newark; and b) Bergen Regional Medical Center, a county-owned entity located in Paramus.

### **BILL DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill No. 468 (2R) of 2016 establishes the "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act," which would require the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with a stakeholder group as defined by the bill, to adopt standards and regulations concerning the handling of hazardous drugs by personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility. These standards and regulations would also include requirements for inspections by the appropriate licensing or inspection authority and a schedule of penalties for violations.

#### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### **EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

None received.

#### OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS concludes that the enactment of Senate Bill No. 468 (2R) of 2016 may result in an indeterminate increase in State revenues from penalties collected for violations of the provisions of the bill or its standards and regulations, offset by an indeterminate increase in State staff and administrative costs to implement and enforce those provisions. The OLS notes that the enactment of the bill may result in an indeterminate increase in State and local costs due to the implementation of standards and regulations promulgated under the bill to: a) University Hospital, an independent non-profit legal entity that is an instrumentality of the State located in Newark; and b) Bergen Regional Medical Center, a county-owned entity located in Paramus.

Certain State licensing and inspection authorities within the Department of Health and the Department of Law and Public Safety may incur indeterminate staff and administrative expenses as the result of increased inspection responsibilities in regard to assessing the compliance of health care professionals, pharmacy practice sites, health care facilities, and animal or veterinary facilities with the provisions of this bill or its standards and regulations. The OLS notes, however, that it is plausible that any expenses associated with this bill may be absorbed by such authorities' existing operating and personnel budgets, thereby minimizing or avoiding an increase in cost.

The OLS is unable to determine the revenues generated by penalties under this bill as the penalty schedule is yet to be established by the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the

Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with a stakeholder group as defined by the bill. Furthermore, the OLS cannot determine the number of infractions that personnel employed by a health care professional, pharmacy practice site, health care facility, or animal or veterinary facility may commit under the bill.

As with the penalty schedule, the OLS is unable to determine the costs to University Hospital and Bergen Regional Medical Center resulting from the implementation of standards and regulations promulgated under the bill as such standards and regulations have yet to be adopted. Furthermore, the OLS is not able to determine how the current procedures for the handling of hazardous drugs in these two facilities would differ or align with any standards and regulations adopted following the enactment of this bill.

Section: Commerce, Labor and Industry

Analyst: Sarah Schmidt

Associate Research Analyst

Approved: Frank W. Haines III

Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

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

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

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## Governor Christie Takes Action On Pending Legislation

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Tags: Bill Action

Home > Newsroom > Press Releases > 2017



Trenton, NJ - Governor Chris Christie today signed into law additional bills to support New Jersey's military members, veterans, and their families and show pride in the state's military history. On May 1, he signed a number of bills impacting veterans and the military, including a law creating a program to divert certain veterans accused of non-violent offenses from the criminal justice system and into appropriate mental health and substance use services.

Today, Governor Christie signed A450/S750 (Mazzeo, Andrzejczak, Mukherji, Moriarty, Benson, Danielsen, Houghtaling/Beach, Van Drew) creating the Wounded Warrior Caregivers Relief Act, which provides a gross income tax credit of up to \$675 to family caregivers of totally disabled veterans whose injuries occurred as a result of serving on active duty on or after September 11, 2001.

"We must do all we can do to make it easier for military members who have been left with debilitating injuries in the line of duty and their family members who now care for them," said Governor Christie. "This compassionate new law provides a tax credit to ease some of the financial burden on those families and show our appreciation for the many sacrifices they have made to keep their loved ones safe and at home."

Other military and veterans bills signed by Governor Christie allow active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have completed basic training to wear their dress uniform at their high school graduation and require the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs to work with the Division of Travel and Tourism and the New Jersey Historical Commission to develop an online list with a historic tour of war battles fought and places of historical military significance in New Jersey and its State waters.

Governor Christie also took action on the following bills:

**BILL SIGNINGS:** 

ACS for A-815/ACS for S-1088 (Land, Andrzejczak, Mosquera, Vainieri Huttle, Bramnick/Van Drew, T. Kean) - Concerns Code Blue alert plans to shelter at-risk individuals

A-837/S-468 (Jimenez, Green, Mukherji, Sumter, Munoz/Sacco, Greenstein) - Establishes "Hazardous Drug Safe Handling Act;" requires promulgation of standards and regulations concerning safe handling of hazardous drugs by certain health care personnel

A-1256/S-1381 (Caride, Singleton, Jasey, Wimberly/Bateman) - Requires State Board of Education regulations regarding school nurse certification to include certain minimum eligibility requirements

A-1649/S-853 (Schaer, Pintor Marin, Wimberly, Mukherji/Stack) - Requires local governments and authorities to obtain financing cost estimate from NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust for certain projects

ACS for A-1973/SCS for S-2401 (Prieto, Handlin/Diegnan, Stack) - "Appraisal Management Company Registration and Regulation Act"

A-1991/S-2722 (Prieto, Jimenez, Oliver/Stack, Cunningham) - Provides two elected members of pension commission of closed Hudson County Employees' Pension Fund may be active or retired county employees

ACS for A-2004/SCS for S-731 (Green, Benson, Moriarty, Mukherji, Pintor Marin/Cruz-Perez, Beach) - Establishes certain penalties for operating or participating in pyramid promotional schemes

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#### **Related Content**

GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT UPON SIGNING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 4146 A-2087/SCS for S-2792 (Mukherji, Schaer, Downey, Quijano/Greenstein, Turner) - Grants drivers additional time to resolve parking violations prior to license or registration suspension

A-2340/S-2108 (Benson, Muoio, Gusciora/Greenstein, Diegnan) - Authorizes students in Marie H. Katzenbach school for the deaf to operate State vehicle for driver education and provides protection for such activity under tort claims act

A-2512/S-1899 (DeAngelo, Pintor Marin, Houghtaling/Whelan, Turner) - Requires BPU to render decision on case within 12 months of final public hearing or hold another public hearing prior to deciding case

A-2805/S-2726 (Caputo, Houghtaling, McKeon, Chiaravalloti/Codey, Pou) - Requires DMVA to develop online historic tour identifying locations of war battles and places of significance to war efforts in State

A-3011/S-2796 (Conaway, Singleton/Allen) - Modifies charter of Board of Island Managers of Burlington Island to move elections to November

AS for A-3351/S-2570 (Lampitt, Andrzejczak, Quijano, Holley, Jones, Space/Cruz-Perez, Oroho) - Creates license to manufacturer and sell hard cider and mead

A-3581/SCS for S-2582, 2092 (Downey, Mosquera, Danielsen, Houghtaling, Van Drew, Turner, Moriarty) - Requires Internet-connected baby monitors to include security features

A-3601/S-2209 (Schaer/Vitale, Gill) - Concerns regulation of guaranteed asset protection waivers by DOBI

A-3785/S-2396 (Downey, Houghtaling, Jasey, Singleton, Holley, Caride, Wimberly/Ruiz, Turner) - Requires State to pay educational costs of students who reside in homeless shelter outside district of residence for more than one year

A-4019/S-2491 (Mazzeo, Mukherji, Andrzejczak, Land, DeCroce, McKnight, Danielsen/Cruz-Perez, Madden) - Permits eligible students who are members of United States Armed Forces to wear military uniform at high school graduation

A-4146/S-2521 (Vainieri Huttle, Benson, Lampitt, Johnson, McKnight, Sumter/Vitale, Gordon) – STATEMENT UPON SIGNING - Provides for monitoring and evaluation of transition of mental health and substance use disorder treatment service system and developmental disability system to fee-for-service reimbursement model; makes appropriation

A-4284/S-2675 (Quijano, Benson, Muoio, Caride, Vainieri Huttle, McKnight, Wimberly, Sumter/Diegnan, Beach)
- Provides that school districts and nonpublic schools may receive reimbursement for costs incurred on or after
January 1, 2016 for testing school drinking water for lead

A-4344/S-2729 (Karabinchak, Pinkin, Coughlin, Wisniewski/Diegnan, Vitale) - Designates portion of Route 18 in East Brunswick as "State Trooper Werner Foerster Memorial Interchange"

AJR-76/SJR-16 (Vainieri Huttle, Holley, McKnight, Jasey/Gill) - Designates September "Affordable Housing Awareness Month"

AJR-130/SJR-92 (Vainieri Huttle, Lampitt/Vitale, Singer) - Designates January 23 of each year as "Maternal Health Awareness Day" in New Jersey

#### **BILLS VETOED:**

A-1850/S-2606 (Giblin, DeAngelo, Mukherji, Holley/Diegnan) – ABSOLUTE - Extends by two months seasonal retail consumption alcoholic beverage license

A-1869/S-668 (Wimberly, Vainieri Huttle, Oliver, Tucker, Quijano, Johnson/Rice, Cruz-Perez) - CONDITIONAL - Establishes Division of Minority and Women Business Development and State Chief Disparity Officer to monitor efforts to promote participation by minority-owned and women-owned businesses in State contracting

A-2353/S-367(Vainieri Huttle, Jasey, Mukherji, Benson, Quijano/Codey, Turner) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes measures to deter steroid use among students; appropriates \$45,000 to DOE for New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association testing of student-athletes for steroids and other performance enhancing substances

A-3091/S-2528 (Munoz, Gusciora, O'Scanlon, Oliver, Lagana, Lampitt, Mukherji, Sumter/Pou, Weinberg, Cunningham) - CONDITIONAL - Bars persons under age 18 from marrying or entering into a civil union

###

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