

**26:2S-6.2  
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST**

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**LAWS OF:** 2019                   **CHAPTER:** 111

**NJSA:** 26:2S-6.2 (Permits certain health care professionals to waive health insurance copayments for members of military on active duty and their family members.)

**BILL NO:** S2968                 (Substituted for A2550)

**SPONSOR(S)** Troy Singleton and others

**DATE INTRODUCED:** 9/24/2018

**COMMITTEE:**               **ASSEMBLY:** Military & Veterans' Affairs  
   **SENATE:** Military & Veterans' Affairs

**AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:** Yes

**DATE OF PASSAGE:**           **ASSEMBLY:** 3/25/2019  
   **SENATE:** 2/21/2019

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** 5/10/2019

**FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:**

**FINAL TEXT OF BILL** (Second Reprint enacted) Yes

**S2968**

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 2 of introduced bill) Yes

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                                 **ASSEMBLY:** No

**SENATE:** Yes

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

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** Yes

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** No

**A2550**

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 2 of introduced bill) Yes

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                                 **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

**SENATE:** No

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

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** Yes

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** No

(continued)

**VETO MESSAGE:** No

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

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**REPORTS:** No

**HEARINGS:** No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** No

RWH/CL

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 111, *approved May 10, 2019*

Senate, No. 2968 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning certain health benefits plan copayments and  
2 supplementing P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-1 et seq.).  
3

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

7 1. a. Notwithstanding any other law or contract provision to  
8 the contrary, if a covered person is a member of the military serving  
9 on active duty, <sup>2</sup>or a family member of the covered person on active  
10 duty, who is also a covered person under the health benefits plan,<sup>2</sup> a  
11 primary care physician or an advanced practice nurse may waive  
12 that covered person's copayment that would otherwise be collected  
13 as payment for treatment by the primary care physician or the  
14 advanced practice nurse for a covered service pursuant to a  
15 participating provider contract between the primary care physician  
16 or the advanced practice nurse and a carrier providing a health  
17 benefits plan.

18 b. For the purposes of this section, "carrier" shall include, in  
19 addition to an insurance company, health service corporation,  
20 hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, or health  
21 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans  
22 in this State, the State Health Benefits Commission and the <sup>1</sup>School  
23 <sup>2</sup>[Employee's] Employees' <sup>2</sup>Health Benefits Commission.<sup>1</sup>  
24

25 2. This act shall take effect on the 90<sup>th</sup> day next following  
26 enactment and shall apply to health benefits plans that are  
27 delivered, issued, executed or renewed, or approved for issuance or  
28 renewal in this State, on or after the effective date.  
29  
30  
31

32  
33 \_\_\_\_\_  
34 Permits certain health care professionals to waive health  
35 insurance copayments for members of military on active duty and  
their family members.

**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>Senate SMV committee amendments adopted December 6, 2018.

<sup>2</sup>Senate floor amendments adopted December 17, 2018.

**SENATE, No. 2968**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**218th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator TROY SINGLETON**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Greenstein and Brown**

**SYNOPSIS**

Permits certain health care professionals to waive health insurance copayments for members of military serving on active duty.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/4/2018)**

1 AN ACT concerning certain health benefits plan copayments and  
2 supplementing P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-1 et seq.).  
3

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

7 1. a. Notwithstanding any other law or contract provision to  
8 the contrary, if a covered person is a member of the military serving  
9 on active duty, a primary care physician or an advanced practice  
10 nurse may waive that covered person's copayment that would  
11 otherwise be collected as payment for treatment by the primary care  
12 physician or the advanced practice nurse for a covered service  
13 pursuant to a participating provider contract between the primary  
14 care physician or the advanced practice nurse and a carrier  
15 providing a health benefits plan.

16 b. For the purposes of this section, "carrier" shall include, in  
17 addition to an insurance company, health service corporation,  
18 hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, or health  
19 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans  
20 in this State, the State Health Benefits Commission and the  
21

22 2. This act shall take effect on the 90<sup>th</sup> day next following  
23 enactment and shall apply to health benefits plans that are  
24 delivered, issued, executed or renewed, or approved for issuance or  
25 renewal in this State, on or after the effective date.  
26  
27

28 STATEMENT  
29

30 This bill, which supplements the "Health Care Quality Act,"  
31 P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-1 et seq.) provides that, notwithstanding  
32 any other law or contract provision to the contrary, if a covered  
33 person is a member of the military serving on active duty, a primary  
34 care physician or an advanced practice nurse may waive a covered  
35 person's copayment that would otherwise be collected as payment  
36 for treatment by the primary care physician or the advanced practice  
37 nurse for a covered service pursuant to a participating provider  
38 contract between the primary care physician or the advanced  
39 practice nurse and a carrier providing a health benefits plan.

40 For the purposes of this bill, "carrier" shall include, in addition  
41 to an insurance company, health service corporation, hospital  
42 service corporation, medical service corporation, or health  
43 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans  
44 in this State, the State Health Benefits Commission and the School  
45 Employees' Health Benefits Commission.

46 The bill takes effect on the 90<sup>th</sup> day next following enactment

**S2968 SINGLETON, CORRADO**

3

- 1 and applies to health benefits plans that are delivered, issued,
- 2 executed or renewed, or approved for issuance or renewal in this
- 3 State, on or after the effective date of the bill.

SENATE MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
**SENATE, No. 2968**

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 6, 2018

The Senate Military and Veterans Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 2968.

As amended, this bill, which supplements the “Health Care Quality Act,” P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-1 et seq.) provides that, notwithstanding any other law or contract provision to the contrary, if a covered person is a member of the military serving on active duty, a primary care physician or an advanced practice nurse may waive a covered person’s copayment that would otherwise be collected as payment for treatment by the primary care physician or the advanced practice nurse for a covered service pursuant to a participating provider contract between the primary care physician or the advanced practice nurse and a carrier providing a health benefits plan.

For the purposes of this bill, “carrier” shall include, in addition to an insurance company, health service corporation, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, or health maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans in this State, the State Health Benefits Commission and the School Employees’ Health Benefits Commission.

The bill takes effect on the 90th day next following enactment and applies to health benefits plans that are delivered, issued, executed or renewed, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State, on or after the effective date of the bill.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to add language that was inadvertently omitted from the bill.

STATEMENT TO  
[First Reprint]  
**SENATE, No. 2968**

with Senate Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Senator SINGLETON)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 17, 2018

These amendments expand the scope of this bill to provide that health care professionals may waive health insurance copayments for family members of active duty military personnel, in addition to the military personnel themselves, as the bill currently provides.



# ASSEMBLY, No. 2550

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 1, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Permits certain health care professionals to waive health insurance copayments for members of military serving on active duty.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/25/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning certain health benefits plan copayments and  
2 supplementing P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-1 et seq.).  
3

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

7 1. a. Notwithstanding any other law or contract provision to the  
8 contrary, if a covered person is a member of the military serving on  
9 active duty, a primary care physician or an advanced practice nurse  
10 may waive that covered person's copayment that would otherwise  
11 be collected as payment for treatment by the primary care physician  
12 or the advanced practice nurse for a covered service pursuant to a  
13 participating provider contract between the primary care physician  
14 or the advanced practice nurse and a carrier providing a health  
15 benefits plan.

16 b. For the purposes of this section, "carrier" shall include, in  
17 addition to an insurance company, health service corporation,  
18 hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, or health  
19 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans  
20 in this State, the State Health Benefits Commission and the  
21

22 2. This act shall take effect on the 90<sup>th</sup> day next following  
23 enactment and shall apply to health benefits plans that are  
24 delivered, issued, executed or renewed, or approved for issuance or  
25 renewal in this State, on or after the effective date.  
26

27

28

STATEMENT

29

30 This bill, which supplements the "Health Care Quality Act,"  
31 P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-1 et seq.) provides that, notwithstanding  
32 any other law or contract provision to the contrary, if a covered  
33 person is a member of the military serving on active duty, a primary  
34 care physician or an advanced practice nurse may waive a covered  
35 person's copayment that would otherwise be collected as payment  
36 for treatment by the primary care physician or the advanced practice  
37 nurse for a covered service pursuant to a participating provider  
38 contract between the primary care physician or the advanced  
39 practice nurse and a carrier providing a health benefits plan.

40 For the purposes of this bill, "carrier" shall include, in addition  
41 to an insurance company, health service corporation, hospital  
42 service corporation, medical service corporation, or health  
43 maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans  
44 in this State, the State Health Benefits Commission and the School  
45 Employees' Health Benefits Commission.

46 The bill takes effect on the 90<sup>th</sup> day next following enactment

**A2550 DEANGELO, MUKHERJI**

3

- 1 and applies to health benefits plans that are delivered, issued,
- 2 executed or renewed, or approved for issuance or renewal in this
- 3 State, on or after the effective date of the bill.

ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
ASSEMBLY, No. 2550

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

The Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 2550.

As amended, this bill, which supplements the "Health Care Quality Act," P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-1 et seq.) provides that, notwithstanding any other law or contract provision to the contrary, if a covered person is a member of the military serving on active duty, a primary care physician or an advanced practice nurse may waive a covered person's copayment that would otherwise be collected as payment for treatment by the primary care physician or the advanced practice nurse for a covered service pursuant to a participating provider contract between the primary care physician or the advanced practice nurse and a carrier providing a health benefits plan.

For the purposes of this bill, "carrier" shall include, in addition to an insurance company, health service corporation, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, or health maintenance organization authorized to issue health benefits plans in this State, the State Health Benefits Commission and the School Employees' Health Benefits Commission.

The bill takes effect on the 90<sup>th</sup> day next following enactment and applies to health benefits plans that are delivered, issued, executed or renewed, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State, on or after the effective date of the bill.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to add language that was inadvertently removed from the bill.

STATEMENT TO  
[First Reprint]  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 2550**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Assemblyman DEANGELO)

ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 25, 2019

This floor amendment expands the scope of this bill to provide that health care professionals may waive health insurance copayments for family members of active duty military personnel, in addition to the military personnel themselves, as the bill currently provides.



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## Newark, N.J.

# Governor Murphy Signs Legislation To Allow Copayment Waivers For Active-Duty Service Members and their Families

05/10/2019

**TRENTON** – Governor Phil Murphy today signed S2968 into law, permitting certain health care professionals to waive health insurance copayments for members of the military on active-duty and their family members.

“The men and women of our military put everything on the line for our freedom and safety,” **said Governor Phil Murphy**. “Our active-duty service members come home and are faced with a deeply flawed VA health care system. Allowing primary care physicians and advanced practice nurses to waive copays for our service members and their families is a no-brainer.”

S2968 allows for primary care physicians or advanced practice nurses to have the ability to waive an active-duty service member's or a family member's copayment that would have otherwise been collected.

“This legislation will certainly have a positive impact on our deployed personnel,” **said Brigadier General Jemal Beale, the Adjutant General of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**. “When things back home are in order, servicemen and women are able to focus on their missions. Every additional benefit goes in the ‘win’ column for New Jersey and its military personnel.”

The legislation was sponsored by Senators Troy Singleton and Kristin Corrado and Assemblymembers Wayne DeAngelo, Raj Mukherji, and Joe Danielsen.

“The members of our military sacrifice so much in their lives to ensure that we are safe here at home,” **said Senator Singleton**. “Waiving health insurance copayments for those currently serving active duty is a simple courtesy and a thank you that reflects our appreciation for the service they provide our nation.”

“On Military Spouse Appreciation Day, it is only fitting that this bipartisan legislation to help our active-duty service members and their families better afford their medical bills is signed into law,” **said Senator Corrado**. “We owe it to these brave men and women to provide the best medical care possible, at a reasonable cost. Waiving health insurance copayments is a small gesture to thank our active-duty personnel for their service to our country.”

“Any steps that we can take to ease financial burdens for our military service members and their families are steps we need to take,” **said Assemblyman DeAngelo**. “Our men and women in uniform have made countless sacrifices to serve and protect our country, such as precious time away from their loved ones when deployed, missing family milestones, and risking injury and death.”

“While service members and their families do receive comprehensive health care coverage, there are instances when copays can pose a hardship when their budgets may already be stretched thin,” **said Assemblyman Mukherji**. “This bill intends to provide common-sense relief and ensure that finances do not present an obstacle to receiving appropriate, timely health care.”

“This new law is very important because it allows medical professionals who welcome military families to waive the cost of their copay, which would in turn expands access to care for service members and their families and lessens complications due to delayed access to health care,” **said Assemblyman Danielsen**. “We owe it to our service members and their families to do everything we can to help them after they’ve sacrificed so much for us.”

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## Governor Phil Murphy

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