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end

§11 –  
C.45:9-27.13a  
§12 –  
C.45:9-27.18a  
§15 - Repealer  
§16 - Note

P.L.2015, CHAPTER 224, *approved January 19, 2016*  
Senate, No. 1184 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning the licensure and scope of practice of physician  
2 assistants, amending and supplementing P.L.1991, c.378,  
3 amending P.L.1983, c.308 and P.L.1988, c.125, and repealing  
4 various parts of the statutory law.

5

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

8

9 1. Section 2 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.11) is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 2. As used in this act:

12 "[Approved] Accredited program" means an education program  
13 for physician assistants which is [approved] accredited by the  
14 [Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation]  
15 Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician  
16 Assistant or its predecessor or successor agency.

17 "Board" means the State Board of Medical Examiners created  
18 pursuant to R.S.45:9-1.

19 "Committee" means the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee  
20 established pursuant to section 11 of [this act] P.L.1991, c.378  
21 (C.45:9-27.20).

22 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Consumer  
23 Affairs.

24 "Health care facility" means a health care facility as defined in  
25 section 2 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-2).

26 "Institution" means any of the charitable, hospital, relief and  
27 training institutions, noninstitutional agencies, and correctional  
28 institutions enumerated in R.S.30:1-7.

29 "Physician assistant" means a [person] health professional who  
30 meets the qualifications under P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et  
31 seq.) and holds a current, valid license issued pursuant to section 4  
32 of [this act] P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.13) <sup>1</sup>[and practices  
33 medicine under the supervision of a physician]<sup>1</sup>.

34 "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine and  
35 surgery pursuant to chapter 9 of Title 45 of the Revised Statutes.

**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 SHH committee amendments adopted December 8, 2014.

<sup>2</sup>Assembly floor amendments adopted December 17, 2015.

1 "Veterans' home" means the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial  
2 Home – Menlo Park, the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial Home –  
3 Vineland, and the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial Home –  
4 Paramus.

5 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.1)

6

7 2. Section 4 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.13) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 4. a. The board shall issue a license as a physician assistant to  
10 an applicant who has fulfilled the following requirements:

11 (1) Is at least 18 years of age;

12 (2) Is of good moral character;

13 (3) Has successfully completed an **approved** accredited  
14 program; and

15 (4) Has passed the national certifying examination administered  
16 by the National Commission on Certification of Physician  
17 Assistants, or its successor.

18 b. In addition to the requirements of subsection a. of this  
19 section, an applicant for renewal of a license as a physician  
20 assistant shall:

21 (1) Execute and submit a sworn statement made on a form  
22 provided by the board that neither the license for which renewal is  
23 sought nor any similar license or other authority issued by another  
24 jurisdiction has been revoked **[,] or** suspended **[or not renewed]**;  
25 and

26 (2) Present satisfactory evidence that any continuing education  
27 requirements have been completed as required by **[this act]**  
28 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.).

29 c. The board, in consultation with the committee, may accept,  
30 in lieu of the **examination required by paragraph (4)** requirements  
31 of subsection a. of this section, proof that an applicant for licensure  
32 holds a current license in a state which has standards substantially  
33 equivalent to those of this State.

34 d. **[The board shall issue a temporary license to an applicant**  
35 **who meets the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of**  
36 **subsection a. of this section and who is either waiting to take the**  
37 **first scheduled examination following completion of an approved**  
38 **program or is awaiting the results of the examination. The**  
39 **temporary license shall expire upon the applicant's receipt of**  
40 **notification of failure to pass the examination.]** (Deleted by  
41 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
42 bill)

43 e. A physician assistant who notifies the board in writing on  
44 forms prescribed by the board may elect to place the physician  
45 assistant's license on inactive status. A physician assistant with an  
46 inactive license shall not be subject to the payment of renewal fees  
47 and shall not practice as a physician assistant. A licensee who  
48 engages in practice while the physician assistant's license is lapsed

1 or on inactive status shall be deemed to have engaged in  
2 professional misconduct in violation of subsection e. of section 8 of  
3 P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-21) and shall be subject to disciplinary  
4 action by the committee pursuant to P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et  
5 seq.). A physician assistant requesting restoration from an inactive  
6 status shall be required to pay the current renewal fee and shall be  
7 required to meet the criteria for renewal as specified by the board.

8 (cf: P.L.1993, c.337, s.1)

9

10 3. Section 6 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.15) is amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 6. a. A physician assistant may practice in all medical care  
13 settings, including, but not limited to, a physician's office, a health  
14 care facility, an institution, a veterans' home, or a private home,  
15 provided that:

16 (1) the physician assistant **[is]** <sup>1</sup>**[practices medicine]** performs  
17 medical services within the physician assistant's education,  
18 training, and experience<sup>1</sup> under the **[direct]** supervision of a  
19 physician pursuant to section 9 of **[this act]** P.L.1991, c.378  
20 (C.45:9-27.18);

21 (2) the practice of the physician assistant is limited to those  
22 procedures <sup>1</sup>enumerated under section 7 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-  
23 27.16), and any other procedures<sup>1</sup> that are delegated to the  
24 physician assistant by the supervising physician, as authorized  
25 under <sup>1</sup>subsection d. of<sup>1</sup> section 7 of **[this act]** P.L.1991, c.378  
26 (C.45:9-27.16);

27 (3) **[an appropriate notice of employment has been filed with**  
28 **the board pursuant to subsection b. of section 5 of this act;]**  
29 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
30 Legislature as this bill)

31 (4) the supervising physician or physician assistant advises the  
32 patient at the time that services are rendered that they are to be  
33 performed by the physician assistant;

34 (5) the physician assistant conspicuously wears an identification  
35 tag using the term "physician assistant" <sup>1</sup>or the designation, "PA-C"  
36 or "PA"<sup>1</sup> whenever acting in that capacity; and

37 (6) any entry by a physician assistant in a clinical record is  
38 appropriately signed and followed by the designation, **["PA-C."]**  
39 "PA-C" or "PA."

40 b. Any physician assistant who practices in violation of any of  
41 the conditions specified in subsection a. of this section shall be  
42 deemed to have engaged in professional misconduct in violation of  
43 subsection <sup>1</sup>**[f.] e.**<sup>1</sup> of section 8 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-21).

44 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.4)

1       4. Section 7 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.16) is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       7. a. A physician assistant may perform **【the following**  
4 **procedures:】** <sup>1</sup>**【those duties and responsibilities, including the**  
5 **ordering, prescribing, dispensing, and administering of drugs and**  
6 **medical devices, that are delegated by the supervising physician. A**  
7 **physician assistant may provide any medical service that is delegated**  
8 **by the supervising physician when the service is within the physician**  
9 **assistant’s skills, forms a component of the supervising physician’s**  
10 **scope of practice, and is provided under the physician’s supervision.**  
11 **A physician assistant may perform a task that is not within the**  
12 **supervising physician’s scope of practice, provided that the**  
13 **supervising physician has adequate training, oversight skills, and**  
14 **supervisory and referral arrangements to ensure competent provision**  
15 **of the service by the physician assistant.】** **the following procedures:**<sup>1</sup>

16       (1) **【Approaching a patient to elicit a detailed and accurate history,**  
17 **perform an appropriate physical examination, identify problems,**  
18 **record information and interpret and present information to the**  
19 **supervising physician;】** <sup>1</sup>**【(Deleted by amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_,**  
20 **c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)】** **Approaching a**  
21 **patient to elicit a detailed and accurate history, perform an appropriate**  
22 **physical examination, identify problems, record information, and**  
23 **interpret and present information to the supervising physician;**<sup>1</sup>

24       (2) **【Suturing and caring for wounds including removing sutures**  
25 **and clips and changing dressings, except for facial wounds, traumatic**  
26 **wounds requiring suturing in layers and infected wounds;】** <sup>1</sup>**【(Deleted**  
27 **by amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. )(pending before the Legislature as this**  
28 **bill)】** **Suturing and caring for wounds including removing sutures and**  
29 **clips and changing dressings, except for facial wounds, traumatic**  
30 **wounds requiring suturing in layers, and infected wounds;**<sup>1</sup>

31       (3) **【Providing patient counseling services and patient education**  
32 **consistent with directions of the supervising physician;】** <sup>1</sup>**【(Deleted by**  
33 **amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)】**  
34 **Providing patient counseling services and patient education consistent**  
35 **with directions of the supervising physician;**<sup>1</sup>

36       (4) **【Assisting a physician in an inpatient setting by conducting**  
37 **patient rounds, recording patient progress notes, determining and**  
38 **implementing therapeutic plans jointly with the supervising physician**  
39 **and compiling and recording pertinent narrative case summaries;】**  
40 <sup>1</sup>**【(Deleted by amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. )(pending before the**  
41 **Legislature as this bill)】** **Assisting a physician in an inpatient setting**  
42 **by conducting patient rounds, recording patient progress notes,**  
43 **determining and implementing therapeutic plans jointly with the**  
44 **supervising physician, and compiling and recording pertinent narrative**  
45 **case summaries;**<sup>1</sup>

46       (5) **【Assisting a physician in the delivery of services to patients**  
47 **requiring continuing care in a private home, nursing home, extended**

1 care facility or other setting, including the review and monitoring of  
 2 treatment and therapy plans;] <sup>1</sup>[(Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c.  
 3 )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)] Assisting a physician in  
 4 the delivery of services to patients requiring continuing care in a  
 5 private home, nursing home, extended care facility, or other setting,  
 6 including the review and monitoring of treatment and therapy plans;<sup>1</sup>  
 7 <sup>2</sup>and<sup>2</sup>

8 (6) **[**Facilitating the referral of patients to, and promoting their  
 9 awareness of, health care facilities and other appropriate agencies and  
 10 resources in the community; and] <sup>1</sup>[(Deleted by amendment, P.L. ,  
 11 c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)] Referring patients to,  
 12 and promoting their awareness of, health care facilities and other  
 13 appropriate agencies and resources in the community <sup>2</sup>[; and<sup>1</sup>].<sup>2</sup>

14 (7) **[**Such other procedures suitable for discretionary and routine  
 15 performance by physician assistants as designated by the board  
 16 pursuant to subsection a. of section 15 of this act.] <sup>1</sup>[(Deleted by  
 17 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)]  
 18 <sup>2</sup>[Such other procedures suitable for discretionary and routine  
 19 performance by physician assistants as designated by the board  
 20 pursuant to subsection a. of section 15 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-  
 21 27.24).<sup>1</sup>] (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. ) (pending before the  
 22 Legislature as this bill)<sup>2</sup>

23 b. **[**A physician assistant may perform the following procedures  
 24 only when directed, ordered or prescribed by the supervising physician  
 25 or specified in accordance with protocols promulgated pursuant to  
 26 subsection c. of section 15 of this act:] <sup>1</sup>[(Deleted by amendment,  
 27 P.L., c. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)] A physician  
 28 assistant may perform the following procedures only when directed,  
 29 ordered, or prescribed by the supervising physician <sup>2</sup>[or specified in  
 30 accordance with protocols promulgated pursuant to subsection c. of  
 31 section 15 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.24)] , or when performance  
 32 of the procedure is delegated to the physician assistant by the  
 33 supervising physician as authorized under subsection d. of this  
 34 section<sup>2</sup> :<sup>1</sup>

35 (1) **[**Performing non-invasive laboratory procedures and related  
 36 studies or assisting duly licensed personnel in the performance of  
 37 invasive laboratory procedures and related studies;] <sup>1</sup>[(Deleted by  
 38 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)]  
 39 Performing non-invasive laboratory procedures and related studies or  
 40 assisting duly licensed personnel in the performance of invasive  
 41 laboratory procedures and related studies;<sup>1</sup>

42 (2) **[**Giving injections, administering medications and requesting  
 43 diagnostic studies;] <sup>1</sup>[(Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
 44 before the Legislature as this bill)] Giving injections, administering  
 45 medications, and requesting diagnostic studies;<sup>1</sup>

1 (3) ~~【Suturing and caring for facial wounds, traumatic wounds~~  
2 ~~requiring suturing in layers and infected wounds;】~~ <sup>1</sup>~~【(Deleted by~~  
3 ~~amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending before the Legislature as this bill)】~~  
4 Suturing and caring for facial wounds, traumatic wounds requiring  
5 suturing in layers, and infected wounds;<sup>1</sup>

6 (4) ~~【Writing prescriptions or ordering medications in an inpatient~~  
7 ~~or outpatient setting in accordance with section 10 of this act; and】~~  
8 <sup>1</sup>~~【(Deleted by amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending before the~~  
9 ~~Legislature as this bill)】~~ Writing prescriptions or ordering medications  
10 in an inpatient or outpatient setting in accordance with section 10 of  
11 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.19);<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>and<sup>2</sup>

12 (5) ~~【Such other procedures as may be specified in accordance with~~  
13 ~~protocols promulgated in accordance with subsection b. of section 15~~  
14 ~~of this act.】~~ <sup>1</sup>~~【(Deleted by amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending before~~  
15 ~~the Legislature as this bill)】~~ Prescribing the use of patient restraints <sup>2</sup>~~【;~~  
16 and

17 (6) Such other procedures as may be specified in accordance with  
18 protocols promulgated in accordance with subsection b. of section 15  
19 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.24)】<sup>2</sup>.<sup>1</sup>

20 c. ~~【A physician assistant may assist a supervising surgeon in the~~  
21 ~~operating room when a qualified assistant physician is not required by~~  
22 ~~the board and a second assistant is deemed necessary by the~~  
23 ~~supervising surgeon.】~~ <sup>1</sup>~~【(Deleted by amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_,~~  
24 ~~c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending before the Legislature as this bill)】~~ A physician assistant  
25 may assist a supervising surgeon in the operating room when a  
26 qualified assistant physician is not required by the board and a second  
27 assistant is deemed necessary by the supervising surgeon.

28 d. A physician assistant may perform medical services beyond  
29 those explicitly authorized in this section, when such services are  
30 delegated by a supervising physician with whom the physician  
31 assistant has signed a delegation agreement pursuant to section 8 of  
32 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.17). The procedures delegated to a  
33 physician assistant shall be limited to those customary to the  
34 supervising physician's specialty and within the supervising  
35 physician's <sup>2</sup>and the physician assistant's<sup>2</sup> competence and training.<sup>1</sup>

36 <sup>2</sup>e. Notwithstanding subsection d. of this section, a physician  
37 assistant shall not be authorized to measure the powers or range of  
38 human vision, determine the accommodation and refractive states of  
39 the human eye, or fit, prescribe, or adapt lenses, prisms, or frames for  
40 the aid thereof. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to  
41 prohibit a physician assistant from performing a routine visual  
42 screening.<sup>2</sup>

43 (cf: P.L.1998, c.125, s.1)



1       5. Section 8 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.17) is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       8. a. **【A physician may delegate to a physician assistant under**  
4 **his supervision only those procedures identified in section 7 of this**  
5 **act.】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
6 Legislature as this bill)

7       b. Any physician who permits a physician assistant under **【his】**  
8 the physician's supervision to practice contrary to the provisions of  
9 '【this act】 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.)'<sup>1</sup> shall be deemed  
10 to have engaged in professional misconduct in violation of  
11 subsection e. of section 8 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-21) and shall be  
12 subject to disciplinary action by the board pursuant to P.L.1978,  
13 c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.);

14       c. In the performance of **【a medical procedure】** all practice-  
15 related activities, including, but not limited to, the ordering of  
16 diagnostic, therapeutic, and other medical services, a physician  
17 assistant shall be conclusively presumed to be the agent of the  
18 physician under whose supervision the physician assistant is  
19 **【performing】 practicing '【medicine】'**<sup>1</sup>.

20       d. A physician who supervises a physician assistant '【shall】  
21 may'<sup>1</sup> maintain a written 'delegation' agreement with the physician  
22 assistant. 'A physician assistant shall sign a separate written  
23 agreement with each physician who delegates medical services in  
24 accordance with the provisions of subsection d. of section 7 of  
25 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.16). However, a written delegation  
26 agreement may be executed by a single-specialty physician practice,  
27 provided it is signed by all of the delegating physicians supervising  
28 the physician assistant. In the case of a multi-specialty physician  
29 practice, a written delegation agreement may be executed for each  
30 physician specialty within the practice, provided it is signed by all  
31 of the delegating physicians supervising the physician assistant in  
32 that specialty area. Nothing in this section shall authorize the  
33 execution of a global written delegation agreement between a  
34 physician assistant and a multi-specialty physician practice.'<sup>1</sup> The  
35 agreement shall ':

36       (1)<sup>1</sup> state that the physician will exercise supervision over the  
37 physician assistant in accordance with the provisions of P.L.1991,  
38 c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.) and any rules adopted by the board  
39 '【and will retain professional and legal responsibility for the care  
40 rendered by the physician assistant. The agreement shall】 ;

41       (2)<sup>1</sup> be signed 'and dated annually'<sup>1</sup> by the physician and the  
42 physician assistant '【. The agreement shall】 , and updated as  
43 necessary to reflect any changes in the practice or the physician  
44 assistant's role in the practice; and

45       (3)<sup>1</sup> be kept on file at the practice site '【and made available to  
46 the board upon request】 , be provided to the Physician Assistant  
47 Advisory Committee, and be kept on file by the committee.

1 e. The delegation agreement shall include, but need not be  
 2 limited to, the following provisions:

3 (1) The physician assistant's role in the practice, including any  
 4 specific aspects of care that require prior consultation with the  
 5 supervising physician;

6 (2) A determination of whether the supervising physician  
 7 requires personal review of all charts and records of patients and  
 8 countersignature by the supervising physician of all medical  
 9 services performed under the delegation agreement, including  
 10 prescribing and administering medication as authorized under  
 11 section 10 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.19). This provision shall  
 12 state the specified time period in which a review and  
 13 countersignature shall be completed by the supervising physician.  
 14 If no review and countersignature is necessary, the agreement must  
 15 specifically state such provision; and

16 (3) The locations of practice where the physician assistant may  
 17 practice under the delegation agreement, including licensed  
 18 facilities in which the physician authorizes the physician assistant to  
 19 provide medical services<sup>1</sup> .

20 (cf: P.L.1991, c.378, s.8)

21

22 6. Section 9 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.18) is amended to  
 23 read as follows:

24 9. a. A physician assistant **【and a temporary licensed**  
 25 **physician assistant】** shall be under the **【direct】** supervision of a  
 26 physician at all times during which the physician assistant **【or**  
 27 **temporary licensed physician assistant】** is working in **【his】** an  
 28 official capacity.

29 b. **【In an inpatient setting, direct supervision】** Supervision of a  
 30 physician assistant shall **【include, but not be limited to:】** be  
 31 continuous but shall not be construed as necessarily requiring the  
 32 physical presence of the supervising physician, provided that the  
 33 supervising physician and physician assistant <sup>1</sup>【are or can be easily  
 34 in contact with each other by】 maintain contact through<sup>1</sup> electronic  
 35 <sup>1</sup>, or other means of,<sup>1</sup> communication.

36 (1) **【continuing or intermittent presence with constant**  
 37 **availability through electronic communications;】** (Deleted by  
 38 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
 39 bill)

40 (2) **【regularly scheduled review of the practice of the physician**  
 41 **assistant; and】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
 42 before the Legislature as this bill)

43 (3) **【personal review by a physician of all charts and records of**  
 44 **patients and countersignature by a physician of all medical orders,**  
 45 **including prescribing and administering medication, within 24**  
 46 **hours of their entry by the physician assistant.】** (Deleted by

1 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
2 bill)

3 c. **【In an outpatient setting, direct supervision of a physician**  
4 **assistant shall include, but not be limited to:】** (Deleted by  
5 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
6 bill)

7 (1) **【constant availability through electronic communications;】**  
8 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
9 Legislature as this bill)

10 (2) **【regularly scheduled review of the practice of the physician**  
11 **assistant; and】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
12 before the Legislature as this bill)

13 (3) **【personal review by a physician of the charts and records of**  
14 **patients and countersignature by a physician of all medical orders,**  
15 **within seven days of their entry by the physician assistant, except**  
16 **that in the case of any medical order prescribing or administering**  
17 **medication, a physician shall review and countersign the order**  
18 **within 48 hours of its entry by the physician assistant.】** (Deleted by  
19 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
20 bill)

21 d. **【In any setting, direct supervision of a temporary licensed**  
22 **physician assistant shall include, but not be limited to:】** (Deleted by  
23 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
24 bill)

25 (1) **【continuing physical presence of a physician or a licensed**  
26 **physician assistant;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
27 before the Legislature as this bill)

28 (2) **【regularly scheduled review by a physician of the practice of**  
29 **the temporary licensed physician assistant; and】** (Deleted by  
30 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
31 bill)

32 (3) **【personal review by a physician of all charts and records of**  
33 **patients within 24 hours of an entry by the temporary licensed**  
34 **physician assistant.】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
35 before the Legislature as this bill)

36 e. It is the obligation of each supervising physician and  
37 physician assistant to ensure that: (1) the physician assistant's  
38 scope of practice is identified; (2) delegation of medical tasks is  
39 appropriate to the physician assistant's level of competence; (3) the  
40 relationship of, and access to, the supervising physician is defined;  
41 and (4) a process for evaluation of the physician assistant's  
42 performance is established.

43 (cf: P.L.1998, c.125, s.2)

44

45 7. Section 10 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.19) is amended to  
46 read as follows:

1 10. A physician assistant ~~【treating a patient in an inpatient or~~  
 2 ~~outpatient setting】~~ may order ~~【or】~~ , prescribe, dispense, and  
 3 ~~administer~~ medications ~~【, subject to the following conditions:】~~ and  
 4 medical devices to the extent delegated by a supervising physician.

5 a. ~~【controlled】~~ Controlled dangerous substances may only be  
 6 ordered or prescribed if:

7 (1) a supervising physician has authorized a physician assistant to  
 8 order or prescribe Schedule II, III, IV <sup>2,2</sup> or V controlled dangerous  
 9 substances ~~【in order to:】~~ <sup>1</sup>in order to <sup>2</sup>~~【:】~~ .<sup>2</sup>

10 (a) ~~【continue or reissue an order or prescription for a controlled~~  
 11 ~~dangerous substance issued by the supervising physician;】~~ <sup>1</sup>~~【(Deleted~~  
 12 ~~by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this~~  
 13 ~~bill)】~~ continue or reissue an order or prescription for a controlled  
 14 dangerous substance issued by the supervising physician;<sup>1</sup>

15 (b) ~~【otherwise adjust the dosage of an order or prescription for a~~  
 16 ~~controlled dangerous substance originally ordered or prescribed by the~~  
 17 ~~supervising physician, provided there is prior consultation with the~~  
 18 ~~supervising physician;】~~ <sup>1</sup>~~【(Deleted by amendment,~~  
 19 ~~P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)】~~ otherwise  
 20 adjust the dosage of an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous  
 21 substance originally ordered or prescribed by the supervising  
 22 physician, provided there is prior consultation with the supervising  
 23 physician;<sup>1</sup>

24 (c) ~~【initiate an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous~~  
 25 ~~substance for a patient, provided there is prior consultation with the~~  
 26 ~~supervising physician if the order or prescription is not pursuant to~~  
 27 ~~subparagraph (d) of this paragraph; or】~~ <sup>1</sup>~~【(Deleted by amendment,~~  
 28 ~~P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)】~~ initiate an  
 29 order or prescription for a controlled dangerous substance for a patient,  
 30 provided there is prior consultation with the supervising physician if  
 31 the order or prescription is not pursuant to subparagraph (d) of this  
 32 paragraph; or<sup>1</sup>

33 (d) ~~【initiate an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous~~  
 34 ~~substance as part of a treatment plan for a patient with a terminal~~  
 35 ~~illness, which for the purposes of this subparagraph means a medical~~  
 36 ~~condition that results in a patient's life expectancy being 12 months or~~  
 37 ~~less as determined by the supervising physician;】~~ <sup>1</sup>~~【(Deleted by~~  
 38 ~~amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)】~~ initiate an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous substance as  
 39 part of a treatment plan for a patient with a terminal illness, which for  
 40 the purposes of this subparagraph means a medical condition that  
 41 results in a patient's life expectancy being 12 months or less as  
 42 determined by the supervising physician;<sup>1</sup>

44 (2) the physician assistant has registered with <sup>2,2</sup> and obtained  
 45 authorization to order or prescribe controlled dangerous substances

1 from <sup>2,2</sup> the federal Drug Enforcement Administration <sup>2</sup>[,]<sup>2</sup> and any  
2 other appropriate State and federal agencies; and

3 (3) the physician assistant complies with all requirements which  
4 the board shall establish by regulation for the administration of  
5 controlled dangerous substances pursuant to section 15 of P.L.1991,  
6 c.378 (C.45:9-27.24) and applicable requirements with respect to  
7 educational programs approved by the board pursuant to section 17 of  
8 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.26) and <sup>1</sup>all requirements which the  
9 board shall establish by regulation for the ordering, prescription, or  
10 administration of controlled dangerous substances <sup>2</sup>[pursuant to  
11 section 15 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.24)]<sup>2</sup>, <sup>2</sup>all<sup>2</sup> applicable  
12 educational program requirements <sup>2</sup>[approved by the board pursuant  
13 to section 17 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.26)]<sup>2</sup>, and<sup>1</sup> continuing  
14 professional education programs approved pursuant to section 16 of  
15 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.25) <sup>2</sup>; <sup>2</sup>

16 b. [the order or prescription is administered in accordance with  
17 protocols or specific physician direction pursuant to subsection b. of  
18 section 7 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.16); (Deleted by amendment,  
19 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

20 c. [the prescription states whether it is written pursuant to  
21 protocol or specific physician direction; and (Deleted by amendment,  
22 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

23 d. [the physician assistant signs his own name, prints his name  
24 and license number and prints the supervising physician's name, and in  
25 the case of an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous  
26 substance, prints the physician assistant's Drug Enforcement  
27 Administration registration number.] <sup>1</sup>(Deleted by amendment,  
28 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)] In the case of  
29 an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous substance, the  
30 physician assistant shall print <sup>2</sup>[thereon] on the order or prescription<sup>2</sup>  
31 the physician assistant's Drug Enforcement Administration registration  
32 number.<sup>1</sup>

33 e. The dispensing of medication or a medical device by a  
34 physician assistant shall comply with relevant federal and State  
35 regulations, and shall occur only if: (1) pharmacy services are not  
36 reasonably available; (2) it is in the best interest of the patient; or (3)  
37 the physician assistant is rendering emergency medical assistance.

38 f. A physician assistant may request, receive, and sign for  
39 prescription drug samples and may distribute those samples to patients.  
40 (cf: P.L.2005, c.48, s.1)

41  
42 8. Section 12 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.21) is amended to  
43 read as follows:

44 12. The committee shall annually elect from among its members  
45 a president and vice-president. The committee shall meet [at least  
46 twice each year] <sup>1</sup>[monthly] six times a year<sup>1</sup> and may hold  
47 additional meetings <sup>1</sup>[,]<sup>1</sup> as necessary to discharge its duties. In

1 addition to such meetings, the committee shall meet at the call of  
2 the president, the board, or the Attorney General.

3 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.7)

4

5 9. Section 14 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.23) is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 14. a. The committee may have the following powers and duties,  
8 as delegated by the board:

9 (1) to evaluate and pass upon the qualifications of candidates for  
10 licensure;

11 (2) to take disciplinary action, in accordance with P.L.1978, c.73  
12 (C.45:1-14 et seq.)<sup>2,2</sup> against a physician assistant who violates any  
13 provision of this act; and

14 (3) **to adopt and administer the examination to be taken by**  
15 **applicants for licensure; and** (Deleted by amendment,  
16 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

17 (4) subject to the requirements of section 16 of **[this act]**  
18 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.25), to adopt standards for and approve  
19 continuing education programs.

20 b. In addition to the powers and duties specified in subsection a.  
21 of this section, the committee may make recommendations to the  
22 board regarding any subjects pertinent to this act or to the practice of  
23 physician assistants.

24 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.9)

25

26 10. Section 17 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.26) is amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 17. **[The]** In consultation with the committee, the board shall, in  
29 addition to such other powers and duties as it may possess by law:

30 a. Administer and enforce the provisions of **[this act]**  
31 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);

32 b. Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations, pursuant to the  
33 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
34 seq.), to effectuate the purposes of **[this act]** P.L.1991, c.378  
35 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);

36 c. Establish professional standards for persons licensed under  
37 **[this act]** P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);

38 d. Conduct hearings pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure  
39 Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), except that the board  
40 shall have the right to administer oaths to witnesses, and shall have  
41 the power to issue subpoenas for the compulsory attendance of  
42 witnesses and the production of pertinent books, papers, or records;

43 e. Conduct proceedings before any board, agency, or court of  
44 competent jurisdiction for the enforcement of the provisions of  
45 **[this act]** P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);

46 f. Evaluate and pass upon the qualifications of candidates for  
47 licensure;

- 1 g. **【Establish standards for and approve educational programs**  
 2 **for physician assistants as required by paragraph (3) of subsection**  
 3 **a. of section 4 of this act;】** (Deleted by amendment,  
 4 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 5 h. **【Adopt and administer the examination to be taken by**  
 6 **applicants for licensure;】** (Deleted by amendment,  
 7 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 8 i. Subject to the requirements of section 16 of **【this act】**  
 9 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.25), establish standards for and approve  
 10 continuing education programs; and
- 11 j. Have the enforcement powers provided pursuant to  
 12 P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.).  
 13 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.12)

14

15 <sup>1</sup>11. (New Section) <sup>2</sup>a.<sup>2</sup> A physician assistant who engages in  
 16 clinical practice in this State is required to be covered by medical  
 17 malpractice liability insurance, or if such liability coverage is not  
 18 available, by a letter of credit. The board shall establish by regulation  
 19 the minimum amount for medical malpractice liability insurance  
 20 coverage or lines of credit.

21 <sup>2</sup>b.<sup>2</sup> The physician assistant shall <sup>2</sup>【notify the board of】 include,  
 22 on the physician assistant’s license renewal form,<sup>2</sup> the name and  
 23 address of the insurance carrier or the institution issuing the letter of  
 24 credit <sup>2</sup>【on the physician assistant’s license renewal form】 to the  
 25 physician assistant<sup>2</sup> .

26 <sup>2</sup>c.<sup>2</sup> A physician assistant who is in violation of this section is  
 27 subject to disciplinary action and civil penalties pursuant to sections 8,  
 28 9, and 12 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-21 to 22 and 45:1-25).

29 <sup>2</sup>d.<sup>2</sup> The board shall notify all licensed physician assistants of the  
 30 requirements of this section within 30 days of the date of enactment of  
 31 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).<sup>1</sup>

32

33 <sup>1</sup>【11.】 <sup>1</sup>12.<sup>1</sup> (New section) a. A physician assistant licensed in  
 34 this State, or licensed or authorized to practice in any other jurisdiction  
 35 of the United States or credentialed as a physician assistant by a  
 36 federal employer, who is responding to a need for medical care created  
 37 by an emergency or a State or local disaster, excluding an emergency  
 38 situation that occurs in the place of the physician assistant’s  
 39 employment, may render such care as the physician assistant is able to  
 40 provide without supervision, or with such supervision as is available.

41 b. A physician who supervises a physician assistant providing  
 42 medical care in response to an emergency or a State or local disaster  
 43 shall not be required to meet the requirements set forth for a  
 44 supervising physician in P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.).

45 c. <sup>2</sup>(1)<sup>2</sup> A physician assistant licensed in this State, or licensed or  
 46 authorized to practice in any other jurisdiction of the United States,  
 47 who voluntarily and gratuitously, and other than in the ordinary course

1 of employment or practice, renders emergency medical assistance,  
2 shall not be liable for civil damages for any personal injury that results  
3 from an act or omission by the physician assistant in rendering  
4 emergency care that may constitute ordinary negligence. <sup>2</sup>【The  
5 immunity granted by this section shall not apply to an act or omission  
6 constituting gross, willful, or wanton negligence or when the medical  
7 assistance is rendered at a hospital, physician's office, or other health  
8 care delivery entity where those services are normally rendered.】

9 (2)<sup>2</sup> A physician who supervises a physician assistant voluntarily  
10 and gratuitously providing emergency care as described in this  
11 subsection shall not be liable for civil damages for any personal injury  
12 that results from an act or omission by the physician assistant  
13 rendering emergency care.

14 <sup>2</sup>d. The immunity granted under subsection c. of this section shall  
15 not apply to an act or omission constituting gross, willful, or wanton  
16 negligence or when the medical assistance is rendered at a hospital,  
17 physician's office, or other health care delivery entity where those  
18 services are normally rendered.<sup>2</sup>

19  
20 <sup>1</sup>【12.】 13.<sup>1</sup> Section 4 of P.L.1983, c.308 (C.26:6-8.1) is amended  
21 to read as follows:

22 4. a. Where there has been an apparent death that is not governed  
23 by the provisions of section 4 of P.L.1991, c.90 (C.26:6A-4), a  
24 registered professional nurse licensed by the New Jersey Board of  
25 Nursing under P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.) <sup>2</sup>【.】<sup>2</sup> or a  
26 physician assistant licensed pursuant to P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10  
27 et seq.) may make the actual determination and pronouncement of  
28 death and shall attest to this pronouncement by: signing in the space  
29 designated for this signature on the certificate of death under R.S.26:6-  
30 7; or, for the purposes of the NJ-EDRS, transmitting orally or in  
31 writing a report of the pronouncement to the attending, covering <sup>2,2</sup>  
32 resident physician, or the county medical examiner.

33 b. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2006, c.86).  
34 (cf: P.L.2006, c.86, s.1)

35  
36 <sup>1</sup>【13.】 14.<sup>1</sup> Section 1 of P.L.1988, c.125 (C.26:6-8.2) is  
37 amended to read as follows:

38 1. If the attending physician, registered professional nurse,  
39 physician assistant, or State or county medical examiner who makes  
40 the actual determination and pronouncement of death determines or  
41 has knowledge that the deceased person was infected with human  
42 immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or hepatitis B virus or that the  
43 deceased person suffered from acquired immune deficiency  
44 syndrome (AIDS), AIDS related complex (ARC),<sub>2</sub> or any of the  
45 contagious, infectious,<sub>2</sub> or communicable diseases as shall be  
46 determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the  
47 attending physician, registered professional nurse, physician  
48 assistant, or State or county medical examiner shall immediately



1 place with the remains written notification of the condition and  
2 shall provide written notification of the condition to the funeral  
3 director who is responsible for the handling and the disposition of  
4 the body.

5 (cf: P.L.1988, c.125, s.1)

6

7 <sup>1</sup>**[14.]** 15.<sup>1</sup> The following sections are repealed:

8 Section 5 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.14);

9 Section 15 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.24); and

10 Section 3 of P.L.1993, c.337 (C.45:9-27.19a) <sup>2</sup> <sub>2</sub>

11

12 <sup>1</sup>**[15.]** 16.<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect on the first day of the  
13 seventh month next following the date of enactment, but the State  
14 Board of Medical Examiners and the Physician Assistant Advisory  
15 Committee may take such anticipatory administrative action in  
16 advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this  
17 act.

18

19

20

21

22 Revises requirements for licensure and creates physician-  
23 delegated scope of practice for physician assistants.

# SENATE, No. 1184

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 30, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Senator JAMES BEACH**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Revises requirements for licensure and creates physician-delegated scope of practice for physician assistants.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/18/2014)**

1 AN ACT concerning the licensure and scope of practice of physician  
2 assistants, amending and supplementing P.L.1991, c.378,  
3 amending P.L.1983, c.308 and P.L.1988, c.125, and repealing  
4 various parts of the statutory law.

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

8  
9 1. Section 2 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.11) is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 2. As used in this act:

12 **"[Approved] Accredited** program" means an education program  
13 for physician assistants which is **[approved] accredited** by the  
14 **[Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation]**  
15 Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician  
16 Assistant or its predecessor or successor agency.

17 "Board" means the State Board of Medical Examiners created  
18 pursuant to R.S.45:9-1.

19 "Committee" means the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee  
20 established pursuant to section 11 of **[this act] P.L.1991, c.378**  
21 (C.45:9-27.20).

22 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Consumer  
23 Affairs.

24 "Health care facility" means a health care facility as defined in  
25 section 2 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-2).

26 "Institution" means any of the charitable, hospital, relief and  
27 training institutions, noninstitutional agencies, and correctional  
28 institutions enumerated in R.S.30:1-7.

29 "Physician assistant" means a **[person] health professional** who  
30 meets the qualifications under P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et  
31 seq.) and holds a current, valid license issued pursuant to section 4  
32 of [this act] P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.13) and practices medicine  
33 under the supervision of a physician.

34 "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine and  
35 surgery pursuant to chapter 9 of Title 45 of the Revised Statutes.

36 "Veterans' home" means the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial  
37 Home – Menlo Park, the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial Home –  
38 Vineland, and the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial Home –  
39 Paramus.

40 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.1)

41  
42 2. Section 4 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.13) is amended to  
43 read as follows:

44 4. a. The board shall issue a license as a physician assistant to  
45 an applicant who has fulfilled the following requirements:

**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.**

- 1 (1) Is at least 18 years of age;
- 2 (2) Is of good moral character;
- 3 (3) Has successfully completed an **approved** accredited
- 4 program; and
- 5 (4) Has passed the national certifying examination administered
- 6 by the National Commission on Certification of Physician
- 7 Assistants, or its successor.

8 b. In addition to the requirements of subsection a. of this

9 section, an applicant for renewal of a license as a physician

10 assistant shall:

- 11 (1) Execute and submit a sworn statement made on a form
- 12 provided by the board that neither the license for which renewal is
- 13 sought nor any similar license or other authority issued by another
- 14 jurisdiction has been revoked **[,]** or suspended **[or not renewed]**;
- 15 and

- 16 (2) Present satisfactory evidence that any continuing education
- 17 requirements have been completed as required by **[this act]**
- 18 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.).

19 c. The board, in consultation with the committee, may accept,

20 in lieu of the **[examination required by paragraph (4)]** requirements

21 of subsection a. of this section, proof that an applicant for licensure

22 holds a current license in a state which has standards substantially

23 equivalent to those of this State.

24 d. **[The board shall issue a temporary license to an applicant**

25 who meets the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of

26 subsection a. of this section and who is either waiting to take the

27 first scheduled examination following completion of an approved

28 program or is awaiting the results of the examination. The

29 temporary license shall expire upon the applicant's receipt of

30 notification of failure to pass the examination.]

31 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this

32 bill)

33 e. A physician assistant who notifies the board in writing on

34 forms prescribed by the board may elect to place the physician

35 assistant's license on inactive status. A physician assistant with an

36 inactive license shall not be subject to the payment of renewal fees

37 and shall not practice as a physician assistant. A licensee who

38 engages in practice while the physician assistant's license is lapsed

39 or on inactive status shall be deemed to have engaged in

40 professional misconduct in violation of subsection e. of section 8 of

41 P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-21) and shall be subject to disciplinary

42 action by the committee pursuant to P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et

43 seq.). A physician assistant requesting restoration from an inactive

44 status shall be required to pay the current renewal fee and shall be

45 required to meet the criteria for renewal as specified by the board.

46 (cf: P.L.1993, c.337, s.1)

1       3. Section 6 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.15) is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       6. a. A physician assistant may practice in all medical care  
4 settings, including, but not limited to, a physician's office, a health  
5 care facility, an institution, a veterans' home, or a private home,  
6 provided that:

7       (1) the physician assistant **[is]** practices medicine under the  
8 **[direct]** supervision of a physician pursuant to section 9 of **[this**  
9 **act]** P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.18);

10       (2) the practice of the physician assistant is limited to those  
11 procedures that are delegated to the physician assistant by the  
12 supervising physician, as authorized under section 7 of [this act]  
13 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.16);

14       (3) **[an appropriate notice of employment has been filed with**  
15 **the board pursuant to subsection b. of section 5 of this act;]**  
16 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
17 Legislature as this bill)

18       (4) the supervising physician or physician assistant advises the  
19 patient at the time that services are rendered that they are to be  
20 performed by the physician assistant;

21       (5) the physician assistant conspicuously wears an identification  
22 tag using the term "physician assistant" whenever acting in that  
23 capacity; and

24       (6) any entry by a physician assistant in a clinical record is  
25 appropriately signed and followed by the designation, **["PA-C."]**  
26 "PA-C" or "PA."

27       b. Any physician assistant who practices in violation of any of  
28 the conditions specified in subsection a. of this section shall be  
29 deemed to have engaged in professional misconduct in violation of  
30 subsection f. of section 8 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-21).

31 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.4)

32

33       4. Section 7 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.16) is amended to  
34 read as follows:

35       7. a. A physician assistant may perform **[the following**  
36 **procedures:]** those duties and responsibilities, including the  
37 ordering, prescribing, dispensing, and administering of drugs and  
38 medical devices, that are delegated by the supervising physician. A  
39 physician assistant may provide any medical service that is  
40 delegated by the supervising physician when the service is within  
41 the physician assistant's skills, forms a component of the  
42 supervising physician's scope of practice, and is provided under the  
43 physician's supervision. A physician assistant may perform a task  
44 that is not within the supervising physician's scope of practice,  
45 provided that the supervising physician has adequate training,  
46 oversight skills, and supervisory and referral arrangements to

1 ensure competent provision of the service by the physician  
2 assistant.

3 (1) **【Approaching a patient to elicit a detailed and accurate**  
4 **history, perform an appropriate physical examination, identify**  
5 **problems, record information and interpret and present information**  
6 **to the supervising physician;】** (Deleted by amendment,  
7 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

8 (2) **【Suturing and caring for wounds including removing sutures**  
9 **and clips and changing dressings, except for facial wounds,**  
10 **traumatic wounds requiring suturing in layers and infected**  
11 **wounds;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
12 Legislature as this bill)

13 (3) **【Providing patient counseling services and patient education**  
14 **consistent with directions of the supervising physician;】** (Deleted  
15 by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
16 bill)

17 (4) **【Assisting a physician in an inpatient setting by conducting**  
18 **patient rounds, recording patient progress notes, determining and**  
19 **implementing therapeutic plans jointly with the supervising**  
20 **physician and compiling and recording pertinent narrative case**  
21 **summaries;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before  
22 the Legislature as this bill)

23 (5) **【Assisting a physician in the delivery of services to patients**  
24 **requiring continuing care in a private home, nursing home,**  
25 **extended care facility or other setting, including the review and**  
26 **monitoring of treatment and therapy plans;】** (Deleted by  
27 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
28 bill)

29 (6) **【Facilitating the referral of patients to, and promoting their**  
30 **awareness of, health care facilities and other appropriate agencies**  
31 **and resources in the community; and】** (Deleted by amendment,  
32 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

33 (7) **【Such other procedures suitable for discretionary and routine**  
34 **performance by physician assistants as designated by the board**  
35 **pursuant to subsection a. of section 15 of this act.】** (Deleted by  
36 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
37 bill)

38 b. **【A physician assistant may perform the following**  
39 **procedures only when directed, ordered or prescribed by the**  
40 **supervising physician or specified in accordance with protocols**  
41 **promulgated pursuant to subsection c. of section 15 of this act:】**  
42 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
43 Legislature as this bill)

44 (1) **【Performing non-invasive laboratory procedures and related**  
45 **studies or assisting duly licensed personnel in the performance of**  
46 **invasive laboratory procedures and related studies;】** (Deleted by

1 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
2 bill)

3 (2) **【Giving injections, administering medications and**  
4 **requesting diagnostic studies;】** (Deleted by amendment,  
5 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

6 (3) **【Suturing and caring for facial wounds, traumatic wounds**  
7 **requiring suturing in layers and infected wounds;】** (Deleted by  
8 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
9 bill)

10 (4) **【Writing prescriptions or ordering medications in an**  
11 **inpatient or outpatient setting in accordance with section 10 of this**  
12 **act; and】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
13 Legislature as this bill)

14 (5) **【Such other procedures as may be specified in accordance**  
15 **with protocols promulgated in accordance with subsection b. of**  
16 **section 15 of this act.】** (Deleted by amendment,  
17 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

18 c. **【A physician assistant may assist a supervising surgeon in**  
19 **the operating room when a qualified assistant physician is not**  
20 **required by the board and a second assistant is deemed necessary by**  
21 **the supervising surgeon.】** (Deleted by amendment,  
22 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

23 (cf: P.L.1998, c.125, s.1)

24

25 5. Section 8 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.17) is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 8. a. **【A physician may delegate to a physician assistant under**  
28 **his supervision only those procedures identified in section 7 of this**  
29 **act.】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
30 Legislature as this bill)

31 b. Any physician who permits a physician assistant under **【his】**  
32 **the physician's** supervision to practice contrary to the provisions of  
33 this act shall be deemed to have engaged in professional misconduct  
34 in violation of subsection e. of section 8 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-  
35 21) and shall be subject to disciplinary action by the board pursuant  
36 to P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.);

37 c. In the performance of **【a medical procedure】** all practice-  
38 related activities, including, but not limited to, the ordering of  
39 diagnostic, therapeutic, and other medical services, a physician  
40 assistant shall be conclusively presumed to be the agent of the  
41 physician under whose supervision the physician assistant is  
42 **【performing】** practicing medicine.

43 d. A physician who supervises a physician assistant shall  
44 maintain a written agreement with the physician assistant. The  
45 agreement shall state that the physician will exercise supervision  
46 over the physician assistant in accordance with the provisions of  
47 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.) and any rules adopted by the

1 board and will retain professional and legal responsibility for the  
2 care rendered by the physician assistant. The agreement shall be  
3 signed by the physician and the physician assistant. The agreement  
4 shall be kept on file at the practice site and made available to the  
5 board upon request.

6 (cf: P.L.1991, c.378, s.8)

7

8 6. Section 9 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.18) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 9. a. A physician assistant **【and a temporary licensed**  
11 **physician assistant】** shall be under the **【direct】** supervision of a  
12 physician at all times during which the physician assistant **【or**  
13 **temporary licensed physician assistant】** is working in **【his】** an  
14 official capacity.

15 b. **【In an inpatient setting, direct supervision】** Supervision of a  
16 physician assistant shall **【include, but not be limited to:】** be  
17 continuous but shall not be construed as necessarily requiring the  
18 physical presence of the supervising physician, provided that the  
19 supervising physician and physician assistant are or can be easily in  
20 contact with each other by electronic communication.

21 (1) **【continuing or intermittent presence with constant**  
22 **availability through electronic communications;】** (Deleted by  
23 amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending before the Legislature as this  
24 bill)

25 (2) **【regularly scheduled review of the practice of the physician**  
26 **assistant; and】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending  
27 before the Legislature as this bill)

28 (3) **【personal review by a physician of all charts and records of**  
29 **patients and countersignature by a physician of all medical orders,**  
30 **including prescribing and administering medication, within 24**  
31 **hours of their entry by the physician assistant.】** (Deleted by  
32 amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending before the Legislature as this  
33 bill)

34 c. **【In an outpatient setting, direct supervision of a physician**  
35 **assistant shall include, but not be limited to:】** (Deleted by  
36 amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending before the Legislature as this  
37 bill)

38 (1) **【constant availability through electronic communications;】**  
39 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending before the  
40 Legislature as this bill)

41 (2) **【regularly scheduled review of the practice of the physician**  
42 **assistant; and】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_)(pending  
43 before the Legislature as this bill)

44 (3) **【personal review by a physician of the charts and records of**  
45 **patients and countersignature by a physician of all medical orders,**  
46 **within seven days of their entry by the physician assistant, except**



1 that in the case of any medical order prescribing or administering  
2 medication, a physician shall review and countersign the order  
3 within 48 hours of its entry by the physician assistant.】 (Deleted by  
4 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
5 bill)

6 d. 【In any setting, direct supervision of a temporary licensed  
7 physician assistant shall include, but not be limited to:】 (Deleted by  
8 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
9 bill)

10 (1) 【continuing physical presence of a physician or a licensed  
11 physician assistant;】 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
12 before the Legislature as this bill)

13 (2) 【regularly scheduled review by a physician of the practice of  
14 the temporary licensed physician assistant; and】 (Deleted by  
15 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
16 bill)

17 (3) 【personal review by a physician of all charts and records of  
18 patients within 24 hours of an entry by the temporary licensed  
19 physician assistant.】 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
20 before the Legislature as this bill)

21 e. It is the obligation of each supervising physician and  
22 physician assistant to ensure that: (1) the physician assistant's  
23 scope of practice is identified; (2) delegation of medical tasks is  
24 appropriate to the physician assistant's level of competence; (3) the  
25 relationship of, and access to, the supervising physician is defined;  
26 and (4) a process for evaluation of the physician assistant's  
27 performance is established.

28 (cf: P.L.1998, c.125, s.2)

29

30 7. Section 10 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.19) is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 10. A physician assistant 【treating a patient in an inpatient or  
33 outpatient setting】 may order 【or】 , prescribe, dispense, and  
34 administer medications 【, subject to the following conditions:】 and  
35 medical devices to the extent delegated by a supervising physician.

36 a. 【controlled】 Controlled dangerous substances may only be  
37 ordered or prescribed if:

38 (1) a supervising physician has authorized a physician assistant  
39 to order or prescribe Schedule II, III, IV or V controlled dangerous  
40 substances 【in order to:】 ;

41 (a) 【continue or reissue an order or prescription for a controlled  
42 dangerous substance issued by the supervising physician;】 (Deleted  
43 by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
44 bill)

45 (b) 【otherwise adjust the dosage of an order or prescription for a  
46 controlled dangerous substance originally ordered or prescribed by

- 1 the supervising physician, provided there is prior consultation with  
2 the supervising physician;】 (Deleted by amendment,  
3 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 4 (c) 【initiate an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous  
5 substance for a patient, provided there is prior consultation with the  
6 supervising physician if the order or prescription is not pursuant to  
7 subparagraph (d) of this paragraph; or】 (Deleted by amendment,  
8 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 9 (d) 【initiate an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous  
10 substance as part of a treatment plan for a patient with a terminal  
11 illness, which for the purposes of this subparagraph means a  
12 medical condition that results in a patient's life expectancy being 12  
13 months or less as determined by the supervising physician;】  
14 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
15 Legislature as this bill)
- 16 (2) the physician assistant has registered with, and obtained  
17 authorization to order or prescribe controlled dangerous substances  
18 from, the federal Drug Enforcement Administration, and any other  
19 appropriate State and federal agencies; and
- 20 (3) the physician assistant complies with 【all requirements  
21 which the board shall establish by regulation for the administration  
22 of controlled dangerous substances pursuant to section 15 of  
23 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.24) and applicable requirements with  
24 respect to educational programs approved by the board pursuant to  
25 section 17 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.26) and】 continuing  
26 professional education programs approved pursuant to section 16 of  
27 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.25);
- 28 b. 【the order or prescription is administered in accordance with  
29 protocols or specific physician direction pursuant to subsection b. of  
30 section 7 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.16);】 (Deleted by  
31 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
32 bill)
- 33 c. 【the prescription states whether it is written pursuant to  
34 protocol or specific physician direction; and】 (Deleted by  
35 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
36 bill)
- 37 d. 【the physician assistant signs his own name, prints his name  
38 and license number and prints the supervising physician's name, and  
39 in the case of an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous  
40 substance, prints the physician assistant's Drug Enforcement  
41 Administration registration number.】 (Deleted by amendment,  
42 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 43 e. The dispensing of medication or a medical device by a  
44 physician assistant shall comply with relevant federal and State  
45 regulations, and shall occur only if: (1) pharmacy services are not  
46 reasonably available; (2) it is in the best interest of the patient; or

1 (3) the physician assistant is rendering emergency medical  
2 assistance.

3 f. A physician assistant may request, receive, and sign for  
4 prescription drug samples and may distribute those samples to  
5 patients.

6 (cf: P.L.2005, c.48, s.1)

7

8 8. Section 12 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.21) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 12. The committee shall annually elect from among its members  
11 a president and vice-president. The committee shall meet **[at least**  
12 **twice each year]** monthly and may hold additional meetings, as  
13 necessary to discharge its duties. In addition to such meetings, the  
14 committee shall meet at the call of the president, the board, or the  
15 Attorney General.

16 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.7)

17

18 9. Section 14 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.23) is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 14. a. The committee may have the following powers and  
21 duties, as delegated by the board:

22 (1) to evaluate and pass upon the qualifications of candidates for  
23 licensure;

24 (2) to take disciplinary action, in accordance with P.L.1978,  
25 c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.) against a physician assistant who violates  
26 any provision of this act; and

27 (3) **[to adopt and administer the examination to be taken by**  
28 **applicants for licensure; and]** (Deleted by amendment,  
29 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

30 (4) subject to the requirements of section 16 of **[this act]**  
31 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.25), to adopt standards for and approve  
32 continuing education programs

33 b. In addition to the powers and duties specified in subsection  
34 a. of this section, the committee may make recommendations to the  
35 board regarding any subjects pertinent to this act or to the practice  
36 of physician assistants.

37 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.9)

38

39 10. Section 17 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.26) is amended to  
40 read as follows:

41 17. **[The]** In consultation with the committee, the board shall, in  
42 addition to such other powers and duties as it may possess by law:

43 a. Administer and enforce the provisions of **[this act]**  
44 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);

45 b. Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations, pursuant to the  
46 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et

- 1 seq.), to effectuate the purposes of **[this act]** P.L.1991, c.378  
2 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);
- 3 c. Establish professional standards for persons licensed under  
4 **[this act]** P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);
- 5 d. Conduct hearings pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure  
6 Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), except that the board  
7 shall have the right to administer oaths to witnesses, and shall have  
8 the power to issue subpoenas for the compulsory attendance of  
9 witnesses and the production of pertinent books, papers, or records;
- 10 e. Conduct proceedings before any board, agency, or court of  
11 competent jurisdiction for the enforcement of the provisions of  
12 **[this act]** P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);
- 13 f. Evaluate and pass upon the qualifications of candidates for  
14 licensure;
- 15 g. **[Establish standards for and approve educational programs**  
16 **for physician assistants as required by paragraph (3) of subsection**  
17 **a. of section 4 of this act;]** (Deleted by amendment,  
18 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 19 h. **[Adopt and administer the examination to be taken by**  
20 **applicants for licensure;]** (Deleted by amendment,  
21 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 22 i. Subject to the requirements of section 16 of **[this act]**  
23 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.25), establish standards for and approve  
24 continuing education programs; and
- 25 j. Have the enforcement powers provided pursuant to  
26 P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.).  
27 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.12)  
28
- 29 11. (New section) a. A physician assistant licensed in this  
30 State, or licensed or authorized to practice in any other jurisdiction  
31 of the United States or credentialed as a physician assistant by a  
32 federal employer, who is responding to a need for medical care  
33 created by an emergency or a State or local disaster, excluding an  
34 emergency situation that occurs in the place of the physician  
35 assistant's employment, may render such care as the physician  
36 assistant is able to provide without supervision, or with such  
37 supervision as is available.
- 38 b. A physician who supervises a physician assistant providing  
39 medical care in response to an emergency or a State or local disaster  
40 shall not be required to meet the requirements set forth for a  
41 supervising physician in P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.).
- 42 c. A physician assistant licensed in this State, or licensed or  
43 authorized to practice in any other jurisdiction of the United States,  
44 who voluntarily and gratuitously, and other than in the ordinary  
45 course of employment or practice, renders emergency medical  
46 assistance, shall not be liable for civil damages for any personal  
47 injury that results from an act or omission by the physician assistant

1 in rendering emergency care that may constitute ordinary  
2 negligence. The immunity granted by this section shall not apply to  
3 an act or omission constituting gross, willful, or wanton negligence  
4 or when the medical assistance is rendered at a hospital, physician's  
5 office, or other health care delivery entity where those services are  
6 normally rendered. A physician who supervises a physician  
7 assistant voluntarily and gratuitously providing emergency care as  
8 described in this subsection shall not be liable for civil damages for  
9 any personal injury that results from an act or omission by the  
10 physician assistant rendering emergency care.

11

12 12. Section 4 of P.L.1983, c.308 (C.26:6-8.1) is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 4. a. Where there has been an apparent death that is not  
15 governed by the provisions of section 4 of P.L.1991, c.90 (C.26:6A-  
16 4), a registered professional nurse licensed by the New Jersey Board  
17 of Nursing under P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.) , or a  
18 physician assistant licensed pursuant to P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-  
19 27.10 et seq.) may make the actual determination and  
20 pronouncement of death and shall attest to this pronouncement by:  
21 signing in the space designated for this signature on the certificate  
22 of death under R.S.26:6-7; or, for the purposes of the NJ-EDRS,  
23 transmitting orally or in writing a report of the pronouncement to  
24 the attending, covering or resident physician, or the county medical  
25 examiner.

26 b. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2006, c.86).

27 (cf: P.L.2006, c.86, s.1)

28

29 13. Section 1 of P.L.1988, c.125 (C.26:6-8.2) is amended to read  
30 as follows:

31 1. If the attending physician, registered professional nurse,  
32 physician assistant, or State or county medical examiner who makes  
33 the actual determination and pronouncement of death determines or  
34 has knowledge that the deceased person was infected with human  
35 immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or hepatitis B virus or that the  
36 deceased person suffered from acquired immune deficiency  
37 syndrome (AIDS), AIDS related complex (ARC),<sub>2</sub> or any of the  
38 contagious, infectious,<sub>2</sub> or communicable diseases as shall be  
39 determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the  
40 attending physician, registered professional nurse, physician  
41 assistant, or State or county medical examiner shall immediately  
42 place with the remains written notification of the condition and  
43 shall provide written notification of the condition to the funeral  
44 director who is responsible for the handling and the disposition of  
45 the body.

46 (cf: P.L.1988, c.125, s.1)

47

48 14. The following sections are repealed:

1 Section 5 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.14);  
2 Section 15 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.24); and  
3 Section 3 of P.L.1993, c.337 (C.45:9-27.19a)  
4

5 15. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh  
6 month next following the date of enactment, but the State Board of  
7 Medical Examiners and the Physician Assistant Advisory  
8 Committee may take such anticipatory administrative action in  
9 advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this  
10 act.  
11

12  
13 **STATEMENT**  
14

15 This bill amends the “Physician Assistant Licensing Act” to  
16 revise the licensure requirements for physician assistants and  
17 creates a physician-delegated scope of practice.

18 The bill revises the permitted practices of a physician assistant to  
19 those duties and responsibilities that are delegated by the  
20 supervising physician. A physician assistant may provide any  
21 medical service that is delegated by the supervising physician,  
22 including prescribing, dispensing, and administering medications  
23 and medical devices, so long as the service is within the physician  
24 assistant’s skills, forms a component of the supervising physician’s  
25 scope of practice, and is provided under physician supervision. The  
26 bill repeals section 3 of P.L.1993, c.337, which requires that a  
27 supervising physician countersign a physician assistant’s order for  
28 medication. The bill provides that a physician assistant may  
29 dispense medications only if: (1) pharmacy services are not  
30 reasonably available; (2) it is in the best interest of the patient; or  
31 (3) the physician assistant is providing emergency medical  
32 assistance. The bill also authorizes a physician assistant to request,  
33 receive, and sign for prescription drug samples and distribute those  
34 samples to patients, and to pronounce death. Current law provides a  
35 more limited scope of practice, specifying a list of permitted tasks.  
36 The bill repeals section 5 of P.L.1991, c.378, which requires that a  
37 physician assistant’s employer file a notice of employment with the  
38 State Board of Medical Examiners (BME).

39 The bill requires that a physician who supervises a physician  
40 assistant maintain a written agreement with the physician assistant  
41 stating that the physician will supervise the physician assistant in  
42 accordance with State law and regulation, and will retain  
43 professional and legal responsibility for the care rendered by the  
44 physician assistant. The bill aligns the level of contact between a  
45 supervising physician and physician assistant in outpatient and  
46 inpatient settings. The bill requires continuous supervision,  
47 allowing the need for the physical presence of the physician to be  
48 determined at the practice level as long as easy electronic

1 communication is possible. The bill provides that it is the  
2 obligation of each supervising physician and physician assistant to  
3 ensure that: (1) the physician assistant's scope of practice is  
4 identified; (2) delegation of medical tasks is appropriate to the  
5 physician assistant's level of competence; (3) the relationship of,  
6 and access to, the supervising physician is defined; and (4) a  
7 process for evaluation of the physician assistant's performance is  
8 established.

9 The bill requires that educational programs for physician  
10 assistants required for licensure be accredited by the Accreditation  
11 Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant,  
12 rather than approved by the BME. The bill no longer permits the  
13 temporary licensure of individuals who have not yet passed the  
14 national certifying examination. It provides the ability for a  
15 physician assistant to place the physician assistant's license on  
16 inactive status by notifying the committee on forms prescribed by  
17 the committee.

18 The bill requires that the BME consult with the committee in  
19 exercising its powers under the act, and it repeals section 15 of  
20 P.L.1991, c.378, which requires the BME to give consideration to  
21 advice from the committee on certain matters, as this provision is  
22 obviated by the bill. It also requires the committee to meet at least  
23 monthly, rather than twice each year.

24 The bill provides that the normal requirements for physician  
25 supervision are suspended in the case of a physician assistant who  
26 is responding to a need for medical care created by an emergency or  
27 disaster. The bill provides a physician assistant or supervising  
28 physician immunity from civil damages for a personal injury that  
29 results from an act or omission by those persons rendering  
30 emergency care that constitute ordinary negligence.

31 The bill deletes several language provisions obviated by other  
32 provisions of the bill, and makes several grammatical changes in  
33 existing statutory language.

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR  
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
**SENATE, No. 1184**

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 8, 2014

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with amendments Senate Bill No. 1184.

As amended by the committee, this bill revises the licensure requirements for physician assistants under the “Physician Assistant Licensing Act” and authorizes the creation of an expanded, physician-delegated scope of practice.

In addition to the enumerated permitted practices that a physician assistant is already authorized by law to undertake, the amended bill would authorize a physician assistant to make pronouncements of death, and to undertake any other duties and responsibilities that a supervising physician elects, in their discretion, to delegate thereto, pursuant to a written delegation agreement. The duties and responsibilities delegated to a physician assistant would be limited to those procedures that are customary to the supervising physician’s specialty, and that are within the supervising physician’s competence and training.

Any delegation agreement established under the bill would be required to conform to certain specified parameters and conditions. In particular, any such agreement is required to: (1) state that the physician will supervise the physician assistant in accordance with State law and regulation; (2) identify the physician assistant’s role in the practice, including any specific aspects of care that require prior consultation with the supervising physician; (3) indicate whether or not the supervising physician is required to personally review all patient charts and records, or to countersign for all medical services performed under the delegation agreement, and indicate the timeframe in which review and countersignature must be completed; (4) identify the practice locations where the physician assistant may practice under the delegation agreement; (5) be signed and dated annually by the physician and physician assistant, and updated as necessary; and (6) be retained on file at the practice site and provided to the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee to be retained on file thereby. It would be the obligation of each supervising physician and physician assistant



to ensure that the physician assistant's scope of practice is identified, that delegation of medical tasks is appropriate to the physician assistant's level of competence, that the relationship of, and access to, the supervising physician is defined, and that a process for evaluation of the physician assistant's performance is established.

The bill would generally require a physician assistant to enter into a separate delegation agreement with each physician who delegates authority thereto in accordance with the bill's provisions. However, a single-specialty physician practice would be authorized to execute a delegation agreement with a physician assistant, on behalf of two or more delegating physicians, so long as the agreement is signed by all of the delegating physicians who are supervising the physician assistant. In the case of a multi-specialty physician practice, moreover, a written delegation agreement may be executed for each physician specialty within the practice, provided that the agreement is signed by all of the delegating physicians who are supervising the physician assistant in that specialty area. Nothing in the bill, however, would authorize the execution of a global written delegation agreement between a physician assistant and a multi-specialty physician practice. The bill repeals section 5 of P.L.1991, c.378, which requires that a physician assistant's employer file a notice of employment with the State Board of Medical Examiners (BME).

The bill would also make changes to the law to ensure that the level of contact required between a supervising physician and physician assistant is the same for both inpatient and outpatient settings. Currently, there are slightly different levels of contact required in each setting. In particular, the bill requires a physician assistant who is working in either type of setting to be under the continuous supervision of a physician, but it specifies that continuous supervision need not be construed as necessarily requiring the physical presence of the supervising physician, so long as the supervising physician and the physician assistant maintain contact through electronic, or other means of, communication.

The bill's requirements associated with physician supervision will be suspended when a physician assistant is responding to a need for medical care that is created by an emergency or disaster. The bill also provides a physician assistant or supervising physician immunity from civil damages for any personal injury that results from an act or omission of those persons, which constitutes ordinary negligence, when those persons are rendering emergency care.

The bill would repeal section 3 of P.L.1993, c.337, which requires a supervising physician to countersign a physician assistant's order for medication. Instead of requiring a countersignature, the bill would authorize a physician assistant to order, prescribe, dispense, and administer medications and medical devices to the extent delegated by a supervising physician. As provided by current law, and unchanged by the bill, a physician assistant would only be authorized to order or

prescribe a controlled dangerous substance if: (1) the physician assistant has registered with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration and any other appropriate State or federal agencies; (2) the physician assistant complies with all requirements established by the BME for the ordering, prescription, and administration of controlled substances, as well as with applicable educational requirements; and (3) the supervising physician has authorized the physician assistant to order or prescribe controlled substances in order to: (a) continue, reissue, or adjust the dosage of, an order or prescription that was previously issued by the physician, (b) initiate an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous substance as part of a treatment plan for a terminally ill patient, or (c) initiate an order or prescription for a patient suffering from a non-terminal illness, but only after consultation with the supervising physician. The bill would specify, moreover, that a physician assistant may only dispense medications or medical devices if such dispensation is done in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and: (1) pharmacy services are not reasonably available; (2) such action is in the best interest of the patient; or (3) the physician assistant is providing emergency medical assistance. The bill also authorizes a physician assistant to request, receive, and sign for prescription drug samples and distribute those samples to patients.

In addition to authorizing an expanded scope of practice for physician assistants, the bill would alter some of the licensure and license renewal requirements that are applicable thereto. In particular, the bill would no longer permit the temporary licensure of persons who have not yet passed the national certifying examination, but it would provide the ability for a physician assistant's license to be placed on inactive status, through the submission of notice to the BME. The bill would also require that educational programs required for the licensure of physician assistants be accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, rather than approved by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation.

The bill requires that the BME consult with the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee in exercising its powers under the "Physician Assistant Licensing Act," and it repeals section 15 of P.L.1991, c.378, which requires the BME to consider advice from the committee on certain matters, since this provision is now obviated by the bill. The bill also requires the committee to meet six times a year.

Finally, the bill deletes several other obviated language provisions, and makes several grammatical and technical changes to existing statutory language and citations.

The committee amended the bill to:

- remove references to "the practice of medicine" (and similar phraseology) as applied to physician assistants, and clarify that

physician assistants are authorized to perform medical services within the physician assistant's education, training, and experience;

- make the execution of delegation agreements discretionary, clarify that a physician assistant may undertake any of the procedures expressly listed in law, as well as any procedures that a supervising physician elects to delegate thereto through the execution of a delegation agreement, and reinsert the laundry list of statutorily authorized physician assistant duties, which was deleted from the bill, as introduced;

- generally require a physician assistant to sign a separate delegation agreement with each physician who delegates authority thereto, but provide exceptions to this rule for single-specialty physician practices and multi-specialty physician practices in certain cases;

- require delegation agreements to be signed and dated annually, to be updated as necessary, and to be provided to the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee for retention thereby;

- require delegation agreements to include information that identifies the physician assistant's role in practice, as well as the level of oversight required by the supervising physician, and the practice locations where the physician assistant may practice;

- clarify that a physician's supervision of a physician assistant must be continuous, but need not necessarily entail the physical presence of the physician, so long as the physician and physician assistant maintain contact through electronic, or other means of, communication;

- reinsert the language appearing in subsections a. and d. of section 10 of P.L.1991, c.378, which was deleted in the bill as introduced, and which restricts a physician assistant's ability to order or prescribe controlled dangerous substances;

- require a physician assistant to be covered by medical malpractice liability insurance or a letter of credit;

- require a physician assistant to wear an identification card with the term "physician assistant," or the designation, "PA-C" or "PA";

- require the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee to meet six times per year; and

- make a technical correction to a citation in section 3 of the bill.

STATEMENT TO  
[First Reprint]  
**SENATE, No. 1184**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Assemblyman CONAWAY)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 17, 2015

These floor amendments provide that physician assistants may not perform certain tasks that fall within the scope of licensed optometry, including measuring the powers or range of human vision, determining the accommodation and refractive states of the human eye, and fitting, prescribing, or adapting lenses, prisms, or frames for the aid of human vision. Nothing in the amendments is to be construed to prohibit physician assistants from performing routine visual screenings.

The floor amendments make certain technical corrections to the bill to make it identical to Assembly Bill No. 1950(2R).

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1950

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2014 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblyman PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman SHAVONDA E. SUMTER**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Revises requirements for licensure and creates physician-delegated scope of practice for physician assistants.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/6/2015)**

1 AN ACT concerning the licensure and scope of practice of physician  
2 assistants, amending and supplementing P.L.1991, c.378,  
3 amending P.L.1983, c.308 and P.L.1988, c.125, and repealing  
4 various parts of the statutory law.

5

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

8

9 1. Section 2 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.11) is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 2. As used in this act:

12 "[Approved] Accredited program" means an education program  
13 for physician assistants which is [approved] accredited by the  
14 [Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation]  
15 Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician  
16 Assistant or its predecessor or successor agency.

17 "Board" means the State Board of Medical Examiners created  
18 pursuant to R.S.45:9-1.

19 "Committee" means the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee  
20 established pursuant to section 11 of [this act] P.L.1991, c.378  
21 (C.45:9-27.20).

22 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Consumer  
23 Affairs.

24 "Health care facility" means a health care facility as defined in  
25 section 2 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-2).

26 "Institution" means any of the charitable, hospital, relief and  
27 training institutions, noninstitutional agencies, and correctional  
28 institutions enumerated in R.S.30:1-7.

29 "Physician assistant" means a [person] health professional who  
30 meets the qualifications under P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et  
31 seq.) and holds a current, valid license issued pursuant to section 4  
32 of [this act] P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.13) and practices medicine  
33 under the supervision of a physician.

34 "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine and  
35 surgery pursuant to chapter 9 of Title 45 of the Revised Statutes.

36 "Veterans' home" means the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial  
37 Home – Menlo Park, the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial Home –  
38 Vineland, and the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial Home –  
39 Paramus.

40 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.1)

41

42 2. Section 4 of P.L. 1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.13) is amended to  
43 read as follows:

**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.

1       4. a. The board shall issue a license as a physician assistant to  
2 an applicant who has fulfilled the following requirements:

- 3       (1) Is at least 18 years of age;  
4       (2) Is of good moral character;  
5       (3) Has successfully completed an **approved** accredited  
6 program; and  
7       (4) Has passed the national certifying examination administered  
8 by the National Commission on Certification of Physician  
9 Assistants, or its successor.

10      b. In addition to the requirements of subsection a. of this  
11 section, an applicant for renewal of a license as a physician  
12 assistant shall:

- 13      (1) Execute and submit a sworn statement made on a form  
14 provided by the board that neither the license for which renewal is  
15 sought nor any similar license or other authority issued by another  
16 jurisdiction has been revoked **[,]** or suspended **[or not renewed]**;  
17 and  
18      (2) Present satisfactory evidence that any continuing education  
19 requirements have been completed as required by **[this act]**  
20 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.).

21      c. The board, in consultation with the committee, may accept,  
22 in lieu of the **[examination required by paragraph (4)]** requirements  
23 of subsection a. of this section, proof that an applicant for licensure  
24 holds a current license in a state which has standards substantially  
25 equivalent to those of this State.

26      d. **[The board shall issue a temporary license to an applicant**  
27 **who meets the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of**  
28 **subsection a. of this section and who is either waiting to take the**  
29 **first scheduled examination following completion of an approved**  
30 **program or is awaiting the results of the examination. The**  
31 **temporary license shall expire upon the applicant's receipt of**  
32 **notification of failure to pass the examination.]** (Deleted by  
33 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
34 bill)

35      e. A physician assistant who notifies the board in writing on  
36 forms prescribed by the board may elect to place the physician  
37 assistant's license on inactive status. A physician assistant with an  
38 inactive license shall not be subject to the payment of renewal fees  
39 and shall not practice as a physician assistant. A licensee who  
40 engages in practice while the physician assistant's license is lapsed  
41 or on inactive status shall be deemed to have engaged in  
42 professional misconduct in violation of subsection e. of section 8 of  
43 P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-21) and shall be subject to disciplinary  
44 action by the committee pursuant to P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et  
45 seq.). A physician assistant requesting restoration from an inactive  
46 status shall be required to pay the current renewal fee and shall be

1 required to meet the criteria for renewal as specified by the board.  
2 (cf: P.L.1993, c.337, s.1)

3

4 3. Section 6 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.15) is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 6. a. A physician assistant may practice in all medical care  
7 settings, including, but not limited to, a physician's office, a health  
8 care facility, an institution, a veterans' home, or a private home,  
9 provided that:

10 (1) the physician assistant **【is】** practices medicine under the  
11 **【direct】** supervision of a physician pursuant to section 9 of **【this**  
12 **act】** P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.18);

13 (2) the practice of the physician assistant is limited to those  
14 procedures that are delegated to the physician assistant by the  
15 supervising physician, as authorized under section 7 of 【this act】  
16 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.16);

17 (3) **【an appropriate notice of employment has been filed with**  
18 **the board pursuant to subsection b. of section 5 of this act;】**  
19 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
20 Legislature as this bill)

21 (4) the supervising physician or physician assistant advises the  
22 patient at the time that services are rendered that they are to be  
23 performed by the physician assistant;

24 (5) the physician assistant conspicuously wears an identification  
25 tag using the term "physician assistant" whenever acting in that  
26 capacity; and

27 (6) any entry by a physician assistant in a clinical record is  
28 appropriately signed and followed by the designation, **【"PA-C."】**  
29 "PA-C" or "PA."

30 b. Any physician assistant who practices in violation of any of  
31 the conditions specified in subsection a. of this section shall be  
32 deemed to have engaged in professional misconduct in violation of  
33 subsection f. of section 8 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-21).

34 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.4)

35

36 4. Section 7 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.16) is amended to  
37 read as follows:

38 7. a. A physician assistant may perform **【the following**  
39 **procedures:】** those duties and responsibilities, including the  
40 ordering, prescribing, dispensing, and administering of drugs and  
41 medical devices, that are delegated by the supervising physician. A  
42 physician assistant may provide any medical service that is  
43 delegated by the supervising physician when the service is within  
44 the physician assistant's skills, forms a component of the  
45 supervising physician's scope of practice, and is provided under the  
46 physician's supervision. A physician assistant may perform a task  
47 that is not within the supervising physician's scope of practice,



1 provided that the supervising physician has adequate training,  
2 oversight skills, and supervisory and referral arrangements to  
3 ensure competent provision of the service by the physician  
4 assistant.

5 (1) **【Approaching a patient to elicit a detailed and accurate**  
6 **history, perform an appropriate physical examination, identify**  
7 **problems, record information and interpret and present information**  
8 **to the supervising physician;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )  
9 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)

10 (2) **【Suturing and caring for wounds including removing sutures**  
11 **and clips and changing dressings, except for facial wounds,**  
12 **traumatic wounds requiring suturing in layers and infected**  
13 **wounds;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
14 Legislature as this bill)

15 (3) **【Providing patient counseling services and patient education**  
16 **consistent with directions of the supervising physician;】** (Deleted  
17 by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
18 bill)

19 (4) **【Assisting a physician in an inpatient setting by conducting**  
20 **patient rounds, recording patient progress notes, determining and**  
21 **implementing therapeutic plans jointly with the supervising**  
22 **physician and compiling and recording pertinent narrative case**  
23 **summaries;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before  
24 the Legislature as this bill)

25 (5) **【Assisting a physician in the delivery of services to patients**  
26 **requiring continuing care in a private home, nursing home,**  
27 **extended care facility or other setting, including the review and**  
28 **monitoring of treatment and therapy plans;】** (Deleted by  
29 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
30 bill)

31 (6) **【Facilitating the referral of patients to, and promoting their**  
32 **awareness of, health care facilities and other appropriate agencies**  
33 **and resources in the community; and】** (Deleted by amendment,  
34 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

35 (7) **【Such other procedures suitable for discretionary and routine**  
36 **performance by physician assistants as designated by the board**  
37 **pursuant to subsection a. of section 15 of this act.】** (Deleted by  
38 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
39 bill)

40 b. **【A physician assistant may perform the following**  
41 **procedures only when directed, ordered or prescribed by the**  
42 **supervising physician or specified in accordance with protocols**  
43 **promulgated pursuant to subsection c. of section 15 of this act:】**  
44 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature  
45 as this bill)

1 (1) **【Performing non-invasive laboratory procedures and related**  
2 **studies or assisting duly licensed personnel in the performance of**  
3 **invasive laboratory procedures and related studies;】** (Deleted by  
4 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
5 bill)

6 (2) **【Giving injections, administering medications and**  
7 **requesting diagnostic studies;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. ,  
8 c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

9 (3) **【Suturing and caring for facial wounds, traumatic wounds**  
10 **requiring suturing in layers and infected wounds;】** (Deleted by  
11 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
12 bill)

13 (4) **【Writing prescriptions or ordering medications in an**  
14 **inpatient or outpatient setting in accordance with section 10 of this**  
15 **act; and】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
16 Legislature as this bill)

17 (5) **【Such other procedures as may be specified in accordance**  
18 **with protocols promulgated in accordance with subsection b. of**  
19 **section 15 of this act.】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )  
20 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)

21 c. **【A physician assistant may assist a supervising surgeon in**  
22 **the operating room when a qualified assistant physician is not**  
23 **required by the board and a second assistant is deemed necessary by**  
24 **the supervising surgeon.】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )  
25 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)

26 (cf: P.L.1998, c.125, s.1)

27

28 5. Section 8 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.17) is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 8. a. **【A physician may delegate to a physician assistant under**  
31 **his supervision only those procedures identified in section 7 of this**  
32 **act.】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
33 Legislature as this bill)

34 b. Any physician who permits a physician assistant under **【his】**  
35 **the physician's** supervision to practice contrary to the provisions of  
36 this act shall be deemed to have engaged in professional misconduct  
37 in violation of subsection e. of section 8 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-  
38 21) and shall be subject to disciplinary action by the board pursuant  
39 to P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.);

40 c. In the performance of **【a medical procedure】** all practice-  
41 related activities, including, but not limited to, the ordering of  
42 diagnostic, therapeutic, and other medical services, a physician  
43 assistant shall be conclusively presumed to be the agent of the  
44 physician under whose supervision the physician assistant is  
45 **【performing】** practicing medicine.

1 d. A physician who supervises a physician assistant shall  
2 maintain a written agreement with the physician assistant. The  
3 agreement shall state that the physician will exercise supervision  
4 over the physician assistant in accordance with the provisions of  
5 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.) and any rules adopted by the  
6 board and will retain professional and legal responsibility for the  
7 care rendered by the physician assistant. The agreement shall be  
8 signed by the physician and the physician assistant. The agreement  
9 shall be kept on file at the practice site and made available to the  
10 board upon request.

11 (cf: P.L.1991, c.378, s.8)

12  
13 6. Section 9 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.18) is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 9. a. A physician assistant **【and a temporary licensed physician**  
16 **assistant】** shall be under the **【direct】** supervision of a physician at  
17 all times during which the physician assistant **【or temporary**  
18 **licensed physician assistant】** is working in **【his】** an official  
19 capacity.

20 b. **【In an inpatient setting, direct supervision】** Supervision of a  
21 physician assistant shall **【include, but not be limited to:】** be  
22 continuous but shall not be construed as necessarily requiring the  
23 physical presence of the supervising physician, provided that the  
24 supervising physician and physician assistant are or can be easily in  
25 contact with each other by electronic communication.

26 (1) **【continuing or intermittent presence with constant**  
27 **availability through electronic communications;】** (Deleted by  
28 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
29 bill)

30 (2) **【regularly scheduled review of the practice of the physician**  
31 **assistant; and】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
32 before the Legislature as this bill)

33 (3) **【personal review by a physician of all charts and records of**  
34 **patients and countersignature by a physician of all medical orders,**  
35 **including prescribing and administering medication, within 24**  
36 **hours of their entry by the physician assistant.】** (Deleted by  
37 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
38 bill)

39 c. **【In an outpatient setting, direct supervision of a physician**  
40 **assistant shall include, but not be limited to:】** (Deleted by  
41 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
42 bill)

43 (1) **【constant availability through electronic communications;】**  
44 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
45 Legislature as this bill)

1 (2) **【regularly scheduled review of the practice of the physician**  
2 **assistant; and】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
3 before the Legislature as this bill)

4 (3) **【personal review by a physician of the charts and records of**  
5 **patients and countersignature by a physician of all medical orders,**  
6 **within seven days of their entry by the physician assistant, except**  
7 **that in the case of any medical order prescribing or administering**  
8 **medication, a physician shall review and countersign the order**  
9 **within 48 hours of its entry by the physician assistant.】** (Deleted by  
10 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
11 bill)

12 d. **【In any setting, direct supervision of a temporary licensed**  
13 **physician assistant shall include, but not be limited to:】** (Deleted by  
14 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
15 bill)

16 (1) **【continuing physical presence of a physician or a licensed**  
17 **physician assistant;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
18 before the Legislature as this bill)

19 (2) **【regularly scheduled review by a physician of the practice of**  
20 **the temporary licensed physician assistant; and】** (Deleted by  
21 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
22 bill)

23 (3) **【personal review by a physician of all charts and records of**  
24 **patients within 24 hours of an entry by the temporary licensed**  
25 **physician assistant.】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending  
26 before the Legislature as this bill)

27 e. It is the obligation of each supervising physician and  
28 physician assistant to ensure that: (1) the physician assistant’s  
29 scope of practice is identified; (2) delegation of medical tasks is  
30 appropriate to the physician assistant’s level of competence; (3) the  
31 relationship of, and access to, the supervising physician is defined;  
32 and (4) a process for evaluation of the physician assistant’s  
33 performance is established.

34 (cf: P.L.1998, c.125, s.2)

35  
36 7. Section 10 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.19) is amended to  
37 read as follows:

38 10. A physician assistant **【treating a patient in an inpatient or**  
39 **outpatient setting】** may order **【or】** , prescribe, dispense, and  
40 administer medications 【, subject to the following conditions:】 and  
41 medical devices to the extent delegated by a supervising physician.

42 a. **【controlled】** Controlled dangerous substances may only be  
43 ordered or prescribed if:

44 (1) a supervising physician has authorized a physician assistant  
45 to order or prescribe Schedule II, III, IV or V controlled dangerous  
46 substances **【in order to:】** ;

- 1 (a) **【**continue or reissue an order or prescription for a controlled  
2 dangerous substance issued by the supervising physician;**】** (Deleted  
3 by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
4 bill)
- 5 (b) **【**otherwise adjust the dosage of an order or prescription for a  
6 controlled dangerous substance originally ordered or prescribed by  
7 the supervising physician, provided there is prior consultation with  
8 the supervising physician;**】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )  
9 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 10 (c) **【**initiate an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous  
11 substance for a patient, provided there is prior consultation with the  
12 supervising physician if the order or prescription is not pursuant to  
13 subparagraph (d) of this paragraph; or**】** (Deleted by amendment,  
14 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 15 (d) **【**initiate an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous  
16 substance as part of a treatment plan for a patient with a terminal  
17 illness, which for the purposes of this subparagraph means a  
18 medical condition that results in a patient's life expectancy being 12  
19 months or less as determined by the supervising physician;**】**  
20 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the  
21 Legislature as this bill)
- 22 (2) the physician assistant has registered with, and obtained  
23 authorization to order or prescribe controlled dangerous substances  
24 from, the federal Drug Enforcement Administration, and any other  
25 appropriate State and federal agencies; and
- 26 (3) the physician assistant complies with **【**all requirements  
27 which the board shall establish by regulation for the administration  
28 of controlled dangerous substances pursuant to section 15 of  
29 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.24) and applicable requirements with  
30 respect to educational programs approved by the board pursuant to  
31 section 17 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.26) and**】** continuing  
32 professional education programs approved pursuant to section 16 of  
33 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.25);
- 34 b. **【**the order or prescription is administered in accordance with  
35 protocols or specific physician direction pursuant to subsection b. of  
36 section 7 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.16);**】** (Deleted by  
37 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
38 bill)
- 39 c. **【**the prescription states whether it is written pursuant to  
40 protocol or specific physician direction; and**】** (Deleted by  
41 amendment, P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this  
42 bill)
- 43 d. **【**the physician assistant signs his own name, prints his name  
44 and license number and prints the supervising physician's name, and  
45 in the case of an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous  
46 substance, prints the physician assistant's Drug Enforcement

1 Administration registration number.】 (Deleted by amendment,  
2 P.L. , c. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill)

3 e. The dispensing of medication or a medical device by a  
4 physician assistant shall comply with relevant federal and State  
5 regulations, and shall occur only if: (1) pharmacy services are not  
6 reasonably available; (2) it is in the best interest of the patient; or  
7 (3) the physician assistant is rendering emergency medical  
8 assistance.

9 f. A physician assistant may request, receive, and sign for  
10 prescription drug samples and may distribute those samples to  
11 patients.

12 (cf: P.L.2005, c.48, s.1)

13

14 8. Section 12 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.21) is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 12. The committee shall annually elect from among its members  
17 a president and vice-president. The committee shall meet **【at least**  
18 **twice each year】** monthly and may hold additional meetings, as  
19 necessary to discharge its duties. In addition to such meetings, the  
20 committee shall meet at the call of the president, the board, or the  
21 Attorney General.

22 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.7)

23

24 9. Section 14 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.23) is amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 14. a. The committee may have the following powers and  
27 duties, as delegated by the board:

28 (1) to evaluate and pass upon the qualifications of candidates for  
29 licensure;

30 (2) to take disciplinary action, in accordance with P.L.1978,  
31 c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.) against a physician assistant who violates  
32 any provision of this act; and

33 (3) **【to adopt and administer the examination to be taken by**  
34 **applicants for licensure; and】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )  
35 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)

36 (4) subject to the requirements of section 16 of **【this act】**  
37 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.25), to adopt standards for and approve  
38 continuing education programs

39 b. In addition to the powers and duties specified in subsection  
40 a. of this section, the committee may make recommendations to the  
41 board regarding any subjects pertinent to this act or to the practice  
42 of physician assistants.

43 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.9)

44

45 10. Section 17 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.26) is amended to  
46 read as follows:

- 1       17. **【The】** In consultation with the committee, the board shall, in  
2 addition to such other powers and duties as it may possess by law:
- 3       a. Administer and enforce the provisions of **【this act】**  
4 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);
- 5       b. Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations, pursuant to the  
6 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
7 seq.), to effectuate the purposes of **【this act】** P.L.1991, c.378  
8 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);
- 9       c. Establish professional standards for persons licensed under  
10 **【this act】** P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);
- 11       d. Conduct hearings pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure  
12 Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), except that the board  
13 shall have the right to administer oaths to witnesses, and shall have  
14 the power to issue subpoenas for the compulsory attendance of  
15 witnesses and the production of pertinent books, papers, or records;
- 16       e. Conduct proceedings before any board, agency, or court of  
17 competent jurisdiction for the enforcement of the provisions of  
18 **【this act】** P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.);
- 19       f. Evaluate and pass upon the qualifications of candidates for  
20 licensure;
- 21       g. **【Establish standards for and approve educational programs**  
22 **for physician assistants as required by paragraph (3) of subsection**  
23 **a. of section 4 of this act;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )  
24 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 25       h. **【Adopt and administer the examination to be taken by**  
26 **applicants for licensure;】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )  
27 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 28       i. Subject to the requirements of section 16 of **【this act】**  
29 P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.25), establish standards for and approve  
30 continuing education programs; and
- 31       j. Have the enforcement powers provided pursuant to  
32 P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.).  
33 (cf: P.L.1992, c.102, s.12)
- 34
- 35       11. (New section) a. A physician assistant licensed in this State,  
36 or licensed or authorized to practice in any other jurisdiction of the  
37 United States or credentialed as a physician assistant by a federal  
38 employer, who is responding to a need for medical care created by  
39 an emergency or a State or local disaster, excluding an emergency  
40 situation that occurs in the place of the physician assistant's  
41 employment, may render such care as the physician assistant is able  
42 to provide without supervision, or with such supervision as is  
43 available.
- 44       b. A physician who supervises a physician assistant providing  
45 medical care in response to an emergency or a State or local disaster  
46 shall not be required to meet the requirements set forth for a  
47 supervising physician in P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.10 et seq.).

1 c. A physician assistant licensed in this State, or licensed or  
2 authorized to practice in any other jurisdiction of the United States,  
3 who voluntarily and gratuitously, and other than in the ordinary  
4 course of employment or practice, renders emergency medical  
5 assistance, shall not be liable for civil damages for any personal  
6 injury that results from an act or omission by the physician assistant  
7 in rendering emergency care that may constitute ordinary  
8 negligence. The immunity granted by this section shall not apply to  
9 an act or omission constituting gross, willful, or wanton negligence  
10 or when the medical assistance is rendered at a hospital, physician's  
11 office, or other health care delivery entity where those services are  
12 normally rendered. A physician who supervises a physician  
13 assistant voluntarily and gratuitously providing emergency care as  
14 described in this subsection shall not be liable for civil damages for  
15 any personal injury that results from an act or omission by the  
16 physician assistant rendering emergency care.

17

18 12. Section 4 of P.L.1983, c.308 (C.26:6-8.1) is amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 4. a. Where there has been an apparent death that is not  
21 governed by the provisions of section 4 of P.L.1991, c.90 (C.26:6A-  
22 4), a registered professional nurse licensed by the New Jersey Board  
23 of Nursing under P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.) , or a  
24 physician assistant licensed pursuant to P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-  
25 27.10 et seq.) may make the actual determination and  
26 pronouncement of death and shall attest to this pronouncement by:  
27 signing in the space designated for this signature on the certificate  
28 of death under R.S.26:6-7; or, for the purposes of the NJ-EDRS,  
29 transmitting orally or in writing a report of the pronouncement to  
30 the attending, covering or resident physician, or the county medical  
31 examiner.

32 b. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2006, c.86).

33 (cf: P.L.2006, c.86, s.1)

34

35 13. Section 1 of P.L.1988, c.125 (C.26:6-8.2) is amended to read  
36 as follows:

37 1. If the attending physician, registered professional nurse,  
38 physician assistant, or State or county medical examiner who makes  
39 the actual determination and pronouncement of death determines or  
40 has knowledge that the deceased person was infected with human  
41 immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or hepatitis B virus or that the  
42 deceased person suffered from acquired immune deficiency  
43 syndrome (AIDS), AIDS related complex (ARC),<sub>2</sub> or any of the  
44 contagious, infectious,<sub>2</sub> or communicable diseases as shall be  
45 determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the  
46 attending physician, registered professional nurse, physician  
47 assistant, or State or county medical examiner shall immediately



1 place with the remains written notification of the condition and  
2 shall provide written notification of the condition to the funeral  
3 director who is responsible for the handling and the disposition of  
4 the body.

5 (cf: P.L.1988, c.125, s.1)

6

7 14. The following sections are repealed:

8 Section 5 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.14);

9 Section 15 of P.L.1991, c.378 (C.45:9-27.24); and

10 Section 3 of P.L.1993, c.337 (C.45:9-27.19a)

11

12 15. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh  
13 month next following the date of enactment, but the State Board of  
14 Medical Examiners and the Physician Assistant Advisory  
15 Committee may take such anticipatory administrative action in  
16 advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this  
17 act.

18

19

20

#### STATEMENT

21

22 This bill amends the “Physician Assistant Licensing Act” to  
23 revise the licensure requirements for physician assistants and  
24 creates a physician-delegated scope of practice.

25 The bill revises the permitted practices of a physician assistant to  
26 those duties and responsibilities that are delegated by the  
27 supervising physician. A physician assistant may provide any  
28 medical service that is delegated by the supervising physician,  
29 including prescribing, dispensing, and administering medications  
30 and medical devices, so long as the service is within the physician  
31 assistant’s skills, forms a component of the supervising physician’s  
32 scope of practice, and is provided under physician supervision. The  
33 bill repeals section 3 of P.L.1993, c.337, which requires that a  
34 supervising physician countersign a physician assistant’s order for  
35 medication. The bill provides that a physician assistant may  
36 dispense medications only if: (1) pharmacy services are not  
37 reasonably available; (2) it is in the best interest of the patient; or  
38 (3) the physician assistant is providing emergency medical  
39 assistance. The bill also authorizes a physician assistant to request,  
40 receive, and sign for prescription drug samples and distribute those  
41 samples to patients, and to pronounce death. Current law provides a  
42 more limited scope of practice, specifying a list of permitted tasks.  
43 The bill repeals section 5 of P.L.1991, c.378, which requires that a  
44 physician assistant’s employer file a notice of employment with the  
45 State Board of Medical Examiners (BME).

46 The bill requires that a physician who supervises a physician  
47 assistant maintain a written agreement with the physician assistant

1 stating that the physician will supervise the physician assistant in  
2 accordance with State law and regulation, and will retain  
3 professional and legal responsibility for the care rendered by the  
4 physician assistant. The bill aligns the level of contact between a  
5 supervising physician and physician assistant in outpatient and  
6 inpatient settings. The bill requires continuous supervision,  
7 allowing the need for the physical presence of the physician to be  
8 determined at the practice level as long as easy electronic  
9 communication is possible. The bill provides that it is the  
10 obligation of each supervising physician and physician assistant to  
11 ensure that: (1) the physician assistant's scope of practice is  
12 identified; (2) delegation of medical tasks is appropriate to the  
13 physician assistant's level of competence; (3) the relationship of,  
14 and access to, the supervising physician is defined; and (4) a  
15 process for evaluation of the physician assistant's performance is  
16 established.

17 The bill requires that educational programs for physician  
18 assistants required for licensure be accredited by the Accreditation  
19 Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant,  
20 rather than approved by the BME. The bill no longer permits the  
21 temporary licensure of individuals who have not yet passed the  
22 national certifying examination. It provides the ability for a  
23 physician assistant to place the physician assistant's license on  
24 inactive status by notifying the committee on forms prescribed by  
25 the committee.

26 The bill requires that the BME consult with the committee in  
27 exercising its powers under the act, and it repeals section 15 of  
28 P.L.1991, c.378, which requires the BME to give consideration to  
29 advice from the committee on certain matters, as this provision is  
30 obviated by the bill. It also requires the committee to meet at least  
31 monthly, rather than twice each year.

32 The bill provides that the normal requirements for physician  
33 supervision are suspended in the case of a physician assistant who  
34 is responding to a need for medical care created by an emergency or  
35 disaster. The bill provides a physician assistant or supervising  
36 physician immunity from civil damages for a personal injury that  
37 results from an act or omission by those persons rendering  
38 emergency care that constitute ordinary negligence.

39 The bill deletes several language provisions obviated by other  
40 provisions of the bill, and makes several grammatical changes in  
41 existing statutory language.

# ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 1950**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: FEBRUARY 5, 2015

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 1950.

As amended, this bill revises the licensure requirements for physician assistants under the “Physician Assistant Licensing Act,” and authorizes the creation of an expanded, physician-delegated scope of practice.

In particular, the bill: permits physician assistants to practice within the scope of duties specified in a written delegation agreement with a supervising physician; revises the requirements for physician supervision of physician assistants; revises the authority of physician assistants to prescribe, order, and dispense controlled dangerous substances; and makes certain revisions to physician assistant licensure requirements.

#### *Delegation Agreements and Scope of Physician Assistant Practice*

In addition to the enumerated permitted practices that a physician assistant is already authorized by law to undertake, the amended bill authorizes a physician assistant to perform any duties delegated to the physician assistant by a supervising physician, as outlined in a written delegation agreement. The duties and responsibilities delegated to a physician assistant would be limited to those procedures that are customary to the supervising physician’s specialty, and that are within the supervising physician’s and the physician assistant’s competence and training.

Any delegation agreement established under the bill would be required to meet certain requirements, including: (1) stating that the physician will supervise the physician assistant in accordance with State law and regulation; (2) identifying the physician assistant’s role in the practice, including any specific aspects of care that require prior consultation with the supervising physician; (3) indicating whether the supervising physician is required to personally review patient charts and records, or to countersign for medical services performed under the delegation agreement, and indicating the timeframe in which review and countersignature must be completed; if the delegation

agreement does not require review or countersignatures, it must include an express provision stating as such; (4) identify the practice locations where the physician assistant may practice under the delegation agreement; (5) be signed and dated annually by the physician and physician assistant, and updated as necessary; and (6) be retained on file at the practice site and provided to the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee, which will retain the agreement on file.

It will be the obligation of each supervising physician and physician assistant to ensure that the physician assistant's scope of practice is identified, that the delegation of medical tasks is appropriate to the physician assistant's level of competence, that the relationship of, and the physician assistant's access to, the supervising physician is defined, and that a process for evaluating the physician assistant's performance is established.

As amended, the bill requires a physician assistant to enter into a separate delegation agreement with each physician who delegates authority to the physician assistant; however, a single-specialty physician practice would be authorized to execute a delegation agreement with a physician assistant, on behalf of two or more delegating physicians, provided that the agreement is signed by all of the delegating physicians who are supervising the physician assistant. In the case of a multi-specialty physician practice, a written delegation agreement may be executed for each physician specialty within the practice, provided that the agreement is signed by all of the delegating physicians who are supervising the physician assistant in that specialty area. However, nothing in the bill would authorize the execution of a global written delegation agreement between a physician assistant and a multi-specialty physician practice.

The bill repeals section 5 of P.L.1991, c.378, which requires that a physician assistant's employer file a notice of employment with the State Board of Medical Examiners (BME).

The bill also permits physician assistants to make determinations and pronouncements of death, and to attest to the determination or pronouncement on certifications of death.

#### *Supervision of Physician Assistants*

As amended, the bill also provides that the level of contact required between a supervising physician and physician assistant will be the same in both inpatient and outpatient settings; currently, there are slightly different levels of contact required in each setting. In particular, the bill requires a physician assistant who is working in either type of setting to be under the continuous supervision of a physician, but specifies that "continuous supervision" need not be construed as requiring the physical presence of the supervising physician, so long as the supervising physician and the physician

assistant maintain contact through electronic or other means of communication.

The bill additionally provides that the physician supervision requirement under current law is suspended when a physician assistant is responding to a need for medical care that is created by an emergency or disaster, and provides such care outside a setting where health care services are ordinarily provided. The bill also provides a physician assistant or supervising physician rendering emergency care is immune from civil damages for any personal injury resulting from an act or omission of constituting ordinary negligence.

#### *Physician Assistant Prescribing Authority*

As amended, the bill authorizes a physician assistant to order, prescribe, dispense, and administer medications and medical devices to the extent delegated by a supervising physician. The bill additionally provides that a physician assistant may only dispense medications or medical devices if such dispensation is undertaken in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and: (1) pharmacy services are not reasonably available; (2) such action is in the best interest of the patient; or (3) the physician assistant is providing emergency medical assistance. The bill also authorizes a physician assistant to request, receive, and sign for prescription drug samples and distribute those samples to patients.

The bill does not revise the current requirement that a physician assistant is authorized to order or prescribe a controlled dangerous substance only if: (1) the physician assistant has registered with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration and any other appropriate State or federal agencies; (2) the physician assistant complies with all requirements established by the BME for the ordering, prescription, and administration of controlled substances, as well as with applicable educational requirements; and (3) the supervising physician has authorized the physician assistant to order or prescribe controlled substances in order to: (a) continue, reissue, or adjust the dosage of an order or prescription that was previously issued by the physician, (b) initiate an order or prescription for a controlled dangerous substance as part of a treatment plan for a terminally ill patient, or (c) initiate an order or prescription for a patient suffering from a non-terminal illness after consultation with the supervising physician.

The bill repeals section 3 of P.L.1993, c.337, which concerns countersignatures for prescriptions issued by physician assistants with temporary licensure, as the bill eliminates the issuance of temporary licenses entirely.

#### *Licensure Requirements*

In addition to authorizing an expanded scope of practice for

physician assistants, the bill alters certain licensure and license renewal requirements. In particular, the bill no longer permits the temporary licensure of persons who have not yet passed the national certifying examination, but provides that a physician assistant may place a license on inactive status through the submission of notice to the BME. The bill also requires that educational programs required for the licensure of physician assistants be accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, rather than approved by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation.

The bill requires that the BME consult with the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee in exercising its powers under the “Physician Assistant Licensing Act,” and requires the committee to meet six times a year, rather than twice per year as required under current law. The bill repeals section 15 of P.L.1991, c.378, which requires the BME to consider advice from the committee when designating additional procedures and protocols regarding the scope of physician assistant practice, as the BME will no longer designate additional duties physician assistants are permitted to perform; any such additional duties will instead be set forth in a written delegation agreement.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2014-2015 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments remove references to “the practice of medicine” and related phraseology as applied to physician assistants, and clarify that physician assistants are authorized to perform medical services within the physician assistant’s education, training, competence, and experience, as well as within the scope of the supervising physician’s specialty, competence, and training.

The committee amendments make the execution of delegation agreements discretionary, and clarify that a physician assistant may perform any of the procedures set forth under current law, as well as any procedures identified in a written delegation agreement. The amendments also restore the enumerated list of procedures a physician assistant may perform and certain language concerning a physician assistant’s ability to order or prescribe controlled dangerous substances, which was deleted in the bill as introduced.

The committee amendments require delegation agreements to include information that identifies the physician assistant’s role in practice, as well as the level of oversight required by the supervising physician, and the practice locations where the physician assistant may practice. The committee amendments require a physician assistant to sign a separate delegation agreement with each physician who delegates authority to the physician assistant, and provides certain exceptions to for single-specialty physician practices and certain multi-specialty physician practices. The amendments also require delegation

agreements be signed annually, kept on file at the practice site, updated as necessary to reflect changes in the scope of the delegation, and be provided to, and retained by, the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee.

The committee amendments clarify that a physician's supervision of a physician assistant must be continuous, but does not require the physician be physically present, provided that the physician and physician assistant maintain contact through electronic or other means of communication.

The committee amendments permit physician assistants to prescribe patient restraints, and to determine and pronounce death and attest to such on death certificates.

The committee amendments require a physician assistant to be covered by medical malpractice liability insurance or a letter of credit.

The committee amendments require a physician assistant to wear an identification card with the term "physician assistant," or the designation, "PA-C" or "PA."

The committee amendments increase the number of times the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee must meet each year from two to six.

The committee amendments restructure section 12 of the bill, as amended, concerning emergency medical services provided by physician assistants and civil immunity for such services, to clarify the applicability of the section.

The committee amendments make certain technical corrections to internal cross references within the bill, including updating references to sections repealed or deleted by the bill.

STATEMENT TO  
[First Reprint]  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 1950**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Assemblyman CONAWAY)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 17, 2015

These floor amendments provide that physician assistants may not perform certain tasks that fall within the scope of licensed optometry, including measuring the powers or range of human vision, determining the accommodation and refractive states of the human eye, and fitting, prescribing, or adapting lenses, prisms, or frames for the aid of human vision. Nothing in the amendments is to be construed to prohibit physician assistants from performing routine visual screenings.

The floor amendments make certain technical corrections to the bill to make it identical to Senate Bill No. 1184(2R).



# Governor Chris Christie Takes Action On Pending Legislation From The 216th Legislative Session

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 Tags: [Weather](#)



Trenton, NJ – Furthering his administration's commitment to New Jersey's veterans and military personnel, Governor Chris Christie took action today on legislation from the 216th Legislative Session, including 11 legislative measures designed to assist both active military members and veterans, along with their families.

"From the very start of this administration, we have focused on serving the needs of our veterans and the men and women still in active duty, assisting them with everything from securing jobs to finding the proper health care and social services," said Governor Christie. "The bills I signed today continue to make good on our promise to help those who have given so much of themselves to defend and serve this nation find a seamless transition back to civilian life and receive a helping-hand, when needed, no matter how long after their discharge from the military."

### The enacted legislation includes:

- **S-172/A-2276 (Whelan, Beach/DeAngelo, Quijano)** - Exempts disabled veterans and Purple Heart recipients from payment of municipal parking meter fees when their vehicles bear a disable veteran's or Purple Heart license plate or placard issued by New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission
- **S-2972/A-4465 (Van Drew, Cruz-Perez/Andrzejczak, Tucker, Benson)** - Requires DMVA assist and mentor veterans through criminal justice system
- **A-1667/S-2155 (Johnson, DeAngelo, Andrzejczak, Mukherji, Pintor Marin/Van Drew, A.R. Bucco)** - Permits child whose parent or guardian is ordered into active military service to remain enrolled in school district where child's parent or guardian resided prior to active military service
- **A-2935/S-1325 (Andrzejczak, Lagana, Webber, Mosquera, Lampitt/Van Drew, A.R. Bucco)** - Authorizes property tax deferral for deployed military personnel
- **A-2299/S-239 (Andrzejczak, Benson/Van Drew, Stack)** - Requires municipalities to exempt 100% disabled veterans from construction permit surcharge fees for improvements to promote living unit accessibility; appropriates \$20,000 for municipal reimbursements
- **A-3552/S-2636 (Mazzeo, Andrzejczak, Mukherji, Benson/Beach, Van Drew)** - Creates financial planning assistance program for disabled veterans and their caregivers
- **A-3554/S-2606 (Mazzeo, Andrzejczak, Mukherji, Benson, Danielsen/Beach, Cruz-Perez)** - Increases income eligibility cap to receive respite care for certain veterans
- **AS for A-3750/S-2569 (Lampitt, Tucker, Andrzejczak, Singleton, Mosquera/Beach, Allen)** - Requires Adjutant General to create informational webpage for women veterans
- **A-4148/S-2731 (Andrzejczak, Benson/Van Drew, Beach)** - Provides an excused absence on Veterans Day for pupil who participates in certain activities for veterans or active duty members of United States Armed Forces or New Jersey National Guard

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- **A-4323/S-2952 (DeAngelo, Lagana, Muoio, Benson/Beach, Whelan)** - Expands timeframe for renewal of driver's license, registration, and inspection by military personnel and immediate family members under certain circumstances.
- **AJR-117/SJR-85 (Tucker, Holley, Vainieri Huttie/Beach, Whelan, Madden)** - Urges Congress to restore funding to Vets4Warriors veteran suicide hotline

The Governor also took the following action on other pending legislation:

#### BILL SIGNINGS:

BILL SIGNINGS:

- **S-451/A-1103 (Ruiz, Allen/Vainieri Huttie, Singleton, Benson)** - Establishes Office of the Special Education Ombudsman in DOE
- **S-485/A-1976 (Cunningham, Ruiz/Lampitt, Mosquera, Quijano)** -Requires president of public institution of higher education to regularly report on-campus criminal and fire events to the institution's governing board
- **S-489/A-4926 (Cunningham, T. Kean/Diegnan, Mukherji, Benson)** - Authorizes institutions of higher education to grant college credit to high school students who complete the Jersey Boys State or Jersey Girls State program
- **S-832/A-2039 (Whelan, Beach/Moriarty, Stender, Garcia)** - Permits voter registration of certain persons at age 17 for voting at next election occurring on or after 18th birthday
- **S-1046/A-2721 (Turner, Scutari/Gusciora)** - Concerns alterations in child support obligations in response to changes to status of supported child
- **S-1184/A-1950 (Vitale, Beach/Conaway, Diegnan, Sumter, Danielsen)** - Revises requirements for licensure and creates physician-delegated scope of practice for physician assistants
- **S-1346wGR/A-3837 (Rice/Coughlin, Garcia, Rodriguez-Gregg, Pintor Marin, Jasey)** - Concerns the recording of mortgages
- **S-1447/A-2829 (Greenstein, Addiego/Johnson, Mainor, Rible, Quijano)** - Prohibits posting, publishing on the Internet, or disclosing certain information regarding law enforcement officers
- **S-1567/A-410 (A.R. Bucco, Van Drew/A.M. Bucco, Bramnick, Johnson, Quijano, Rumana)** - Establishes DOT roadside memorial program for fallen police officers, sheriff's officers, EMS workers, and firefighters; designated as "Patrolman Joseph Wargo's Law"
- **S-1687/A-4924 (Ruiz, Vitale/Diegnan, Eustace)** - Permits students made homeless by act of terrorism or natural disaster to attend tuition-free the school district in which they resided prior to being homeless for two school years after the event
- **S-2032wGR/A-3440 (Codey, Turner/Diegnan, Eustace)** - Requires DOE to review Core Curriculum Content Standards to ensure that they incorporate modern computer science standards where appropriate
- **S-2110/A-3343 (Oroho/Space, Vainieri Huttie, Schaer, Phoebus, Pinkin)** - Requires nursing homes to offer form designating beneficiary of personal needs allowance accounts from incoming and current residents

- **S-2201/A-3273 (O'Toole/Russo, Rumana, Casagrande)** - Authorizes youth camps to maintain supply of epinephrine and permit trained employees to administer epinephrine to camp members suffering from anaphylaxis
- **SCS for S-2251/A-3708 (Oroho, Barnes/Diegnan, Webber, Johnson, Space, Phoebus)** - Increases monetary amounts for transfer of estate assets without administration and for exemption from debts of the deceased
- **S-2260wGR/A-688 (Scutari, Cardinale/Schaer)** - Modifies certain fees charged by, and requirements imposed on, check casher licensees
- **S-2284wGR/A-3549 (Pou, Weinberg/Schaer, Vainieri Huttle, Webber, Singleton, Jimenez, Johnson, Bramnick)** - Requires Medicaid managed care organizations to meet certain conditions prior to reducing reimbursement rates for personal care assistant services and home-based supportive care services
- **S-2442/A-3891 (T. Kean, Sarlo/Bramnick, Rodriquez-Gregg, Johnson, Casagrande, Schepisi)** - Establishes NJ Innovation and Research Fellowship Program in DOLWD
- **S-2495/A-3868 (Codey, Rice/Conaway, Singleton, Eustace, Coughlin)** - Authorizes State-chartered banks, savings banks, savings and loans, and credit unions to conduct certain savings account promotions
- **S-2617/A-3944 (Cardinale/Garcia, McKeon, Auth, Eustace, Pinkin)** - Requires DEP to adopt regulations to allow cultivation of commercial shellfish species in certain coastal and inner harbor waters for research, educational, or restoration purposes; requires community engagement process for revision thereof
- **S-2627/A-3957 (Cardinale, Sacco/Schepisi, Auth, Eustace, Rumana, Johnson)** - Designates State Highway Route 17 in Borough of Ramsey as "Staff Sergeant Timothy R. McGill Memorial Highway"
- **S-2695/A-4110 (T. Kean, Sacco/Dancer, Benson, Jimenez, Johnson)** - Requires MVC conduct study and make recommendations concerning electronic driver's licenses and mobile applications
- **S-2741/A-4213 (Doherty/Vainieri Huttle, Webber)** - Permits unregulated solicitation to perform snow shoveling within 24 hours of predicted snowstorm
- **S-2787wGR/A-4273 (Sweeney/Singleton, Burzichelli, Giblin, Prieto, Wimberly)** - Establishes vocational training pilot program in DOC; provides for inmate compensation for education and workforce training participation
- **S-2880/A-4704 (Lesniak, T. Kean/Diegnan, Wisniewski)** - Provides up to \$25 million in tax credits under Economic Redevelopment and Growth Grant Program for certain infrastructure at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
- **S-2922/A-4925 (Ruiz, Turner/Diegnan, Jasey)** - Requires DOE on its website to link to Department of Treasury's website where list is maintained of all third party individuals and vendors employed or retained for work associated with State assessments
- **S-2923/A-4901 (Ruiz, Turner/Jasey, Caputo)** - Requires school district or charter school to provide notification to parent or guardian of enrolled student on upcoming administration of State assessments or commercially-developed standardized assessment
- **S-2960/A-4331 (Codey, Rice/Garcia, Vainieri Huttle, Danielsén, DeAngelo, Holley, Benson, Mukherji)** -

Establishes requirements for training programs for homemaker-home health aides in care of patients with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders

- **S-3019/A-4771 (Sweeney, Stack/Burzichelli, Muoio)** - Requires filing of financial agreement for long term tax exemption with county finance officer and counsel; requires quarterly payment of county share of payment in lieu of tax
- **S-3129/A-4728 (Madden, Cunningham/DeAngelo, Benson, Lampitt, Quijano)** - Directs DOLWD to provide information regarding employee leave and benefit rights
- **S-3168/A-4769 (Sweeney, O'Toole/Burzichelli)** - Limits increase in annual budget requests of certain county entities
- **S-3170/A-4768 (Pou, Bateman/Burzichelli)** - Requires county superintendent of elections to operate pursuant to county administrative code; subjects certain salary costs of office of county superintendent of elections to review and approval by county governing body
- **S-3171/A-4575 (Whelan, Oroho/Greenwald, Burzichelli)** - Creates definition of certified mail
- **S-3182/A-4690 (Ruiz, Pou/Pintor Marin, Spencer, Sumter)** - Delays certain documentation submission deadlines under certain business tax credit programs
- **S-3207/A-4714 (Vitale, T. Kean/Lampitt, Mosquera)** - Limits liability of caregivers when facilitating normalcy for children in foster care
- **S-3240/A-4878 (Lesniak, Allen/Spencer, Sumter, Holley, Eustace)** - Authorizes establishment of recovery high school alternative education programs
- **S-3242/A-4856 (Vitale, Sweeney/Vainieri Huttie)** - Clarifies best interests of the child should be primary consideration in actions undertaken by State governmental entities and courts of law
- **S-3243/A-4702 (Vitale, Greenstein/Vainieri Huttie, Spencer)** - Provides that if minor appears to have been sexually assaulted, health care professionals in addition to physicians may authorize forensic sexual assault examination and medical care without parental consent
- **S-3247/A-4928 (Ruiz, Pou/Sumter, Wimberly)** - Eliminates cap on cost of SDA district school facilities projects that may be constructed by district and included in capital outlay budget
- **S-3282wGR/A-4850 (Rice, Cunningham/Wimberly, Mainor, Johnson)** - Expands Police Training Commission membership to include representative from Northern New Jersey and South Jersey Chapters of National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives
- **S-3303/A-4469 (Whelan/Quijano, Mukherji, Jimenez)** - Makes fraudulent use of social security number to collect lottery winnings crime of fourth degree
- **S-3321/A-4927 (Smith, Van Drew, Bateman/Spencer, Rumana)** - Authorizes DEP to require public access to waterfront and adjacent shoreline as condition of waterfront development approvals and CAFRA permits

- **SJR-22/AJR-40 (Weinberg/Johnson, Vainieri Huttie)** - Designates January 14 of each year as "Hannah G. Solomon Day"
- **ACS for A-206, 471, 1663, 2879, 3060, 3108wGR/S-2663 (Green, Spencer, Gusciora, Johnson, McKeon, Giblin, Wimberly, Mainor, Quijano/Turner, Lesniak, Pou)** - Shortens waiting periods for expungement of criminal and other records and information; makes various changes to other expungement procedures and requirements
- **A-311/S-2426 (Bramnick, Diegnan, Wimberly, Gusciora/Ruiz, T. Kean)** - Requires public schools to weight courses in visual and performing arts equally with other courses worth same number of credits in calculating grade point average
- **ACS for A-428/S-393 (Jimenez, Prieto/Sacco, Sarlo)** - Expands DNA database to include samples from disorderly persons who are fingerprinted and permits law enforcement officers to collect certain biological samples
- **A-801wGR/S-861 (Coughlin, Wisniewski, Mazzeo/Vitale, Sacco)** - Directs New Jersey Turnpike Authority and South Jersey Transportation Authority to study and report on potential revenue generating services of rest areas and service plazas
- **A-984/S-1534 (Andrzejczak, Wimberly/Van Drew, Bateman)** - Enhances penalty for tampering with evidence after fleeing the scene of an accident resulting in death
- **A-1455/S-2011 (Diegnan, Mosquera, Caputo, Jasey, Mukherji/Madden, Holzapfel)** - Abigail's Law; requires that newly-manufactured school buses be equipped with sensors
- **A-1462/S-3288 (Diegnan, Wimberly/Gill)** - Requires coin redemption machine operators to disclose fees
- **A-1466 (Diegnan, O'Donnell, Mainor, Garcia)** - Allows for waiver of school bus requirements for mobility assistance vehicle technicians who transport students with medical needs to and from school
- **A-1726wGR/S-308 (Eustace, Lagana, Mosquera, Vainieri Huttie, Wimberly/Gordon)** - Amends "Flood Hazard Area Control Act" to require DEP to take certain actions concerning delineations of flood hazard areas and floodplains
- **A-1812/S-2717 (Mosquera, Mazzeo, Andrzejczak/Cruz-Perez, Oroho, Jones)** - Extends protections of the new vehicle "lemon law" to new farm tractors purchased or leased in New Jersey
- **A-1958/S-1848 (Allen, Van Drew)** - Concerns exemptions from permits for certain agricultural activities under "Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act"
- **A-2597/S-2161 (Singleton, Diegnan, DiMaio/Ruiz, Beach)** - Provides that beginning with the 2016-2017 grade nine class, Advanced Placement computer science course may satisfy a part of the mathematics credits required for high school graduation
- **A-2839/S-2620 (Burzichelli, Space, Phoebus/Oroho, Turner)** - "New Jersey Rural Microenterprise Act"
- **A-2915/S-2035 (Lagana, McKeon, Ciattarelli/Bateman, Barnes)** - "Uniform Trust Code"

- **A-2943/S-1312 (Andrzejczak, DeAngelo, Mazzeo, Quijano, Danielsen/Van Drew, Allen)** - Provides for voluntary contributions by taxpayers on gross income tax returns for active duty members of United States Armed Forces, Reserve components thereof, and National Guard from New Jersey
  
- **A-3006/S-3272 (Conaway, Singleton, Eustace, DiMaio, Danielsen/Beach, Turner)** - Establishes procedure for consolidating fire districts
  
- **A-3019/S-1978 (Singleton, Conaway, Andrzejczak, Mazzeo, Garcia, Mosquera/Van Drew, Beach)** - Requires State Employment and Training Commission to prepare annual report on State workforce
  
- **A-3043/S-1943 (Space, DeAngelo, Egan, Phoebus, Moriarty/Oroho, Van Drew)** - Concerns authority of DOLWD to inspect prevailing wage public work projects
  
- **A-3044/S-1944 (Space, DeAngelo, Egan, Phoebus, Moriarty/Oroho, Van Drew)**  
Requires Commissioner of DOLWD to disseminate certain information to contractors who bid on or perform prevailing wage public work
  
- **A-3225/S-2333 (Singleton, Ribbe, Lampitt, Quijano, Pintor Marin, Jimenez/Sweeney)** - Provides for licensure of chiropractic assistants
  
- **A-3228/S-2499 (Mukherji, Vainieri Huttle, Mosquera, Garcia/Turner)** - Requires sober living homes and other substance abuse aftercare treatment facilities to provide certain notifications to next-of-kin when patient is released from care; designated as "Nick Rohdes' Law"
- **A-3257wGR/S-2125 (Andrzejczak, Mazzeo, Burzichelli/Van Drew)** - Provides that determination by county agriculture development board or State Agriculture Development Committee as to what qualifies as farm-based recreational activity in pinelands protection area is binding on Pinelands Commission
  
- **A-3276/S-2248 (Mazzeo/Whelan)** - "Mainland Memoriam Act"; directs MVC to create graduated driver's license informational material to be distributed by motor vehicle dealers
  
- **A-3435wGR/S-2503 (Garcia, Mukherji, Vainieri Huttle, Mainor, Eustace, Mosquera/Stack, Gordon)** - "Boys & Girls Clubs Keystone Law"; permits minors to give consent for behavioral health care
  
- **A-3850/S-2467 (DeAngelo, Eustace, Mazzeo, Pintor Marin, Benson/Turner, Singer)** - Requires BPU to establish procedures allowing electric power and gas supplier customers to switch energy suppliers
  
- **A-3927/S-2820 (Andrzejczak, Mazzeo, Taliaferro, Dancer/Van Drew, Oroho)** - Requires drivers to slow down before passing slow moving vehicles; establishes Statewide educational campaign on rural roadway safety; updates agriculture-related motor vehicle laws to reflect current industry practices
  
- **A-3955/S-2644 (Conaway, Benson, Vainieri Huttle, Munoz, Sumter, Mukherji/Vitale, Codey)** - Requires development and maintenance of database to advise public about open bed availability in residential substance use disorders treatment facilities
  
- **A-4098/S-2877 (Pinkin, Sumter, Benson/Codey, Greenstein)** - Prohibits sale or distribution of liquid nicotine except in child-resistant containers

- **A-4105/S-2977 (Garcia, Mainor, Mukherji, O'Donnell, Sumter, Rible, A.M. Bucco/Greenstein, Cunningham)** - Expands scope of law governing registration of security guards; designated as "Detective Vincent Santiago's Law"
  
- **A-4133/S-2997 (Giblin, Pinkin/Cruz-Perez, Allen)** - Allows dispensation of certain nutritional supplements by physician or podiatric physician
  
- **A-4275wGR/S-2831 (Prieto, Eustace, Lagana, Greenwald, Quijano, Danielsen, Mukherji/Sweeney, Turner, Sarlo)** - "New Jersey Secure Choice Saving Program Act"; establishes retirement savings program for certain workers
  
- **A-4386wGR/S-3042 (Coughlin, Pinkin, Vitale, Singer)** - Permits candidates for school board to circulate petitions jointly and be bracketed together on ballot; permits short nonpolitical designation of principles on petitions and ballots; provides for study of impact of changes
  
- **A-4387/S-3016 (Coughlin, Wisniewski, Wimberly/Vitale)** - Requires MVC to allow submission of "Next-of-Kin Registry" information by mail
  
- **A-4388/S-3041 (Coughlin, Wisniewski/Vitale)** - Designates State Highway 184 in Woodbridge Township as "Bruce Turcotte Memorial Highway"
  
- **A-4415/S-3279 (Diegnan, Garcia, Pinkin/Turner, Ruiz)** - Establishes State Seal of Biliteracy to recognize high school graduates who have attained a high level of bilingual proficiency
  
- **A-4420/S-3056 (Mazzeo, Vainieri Huttie, DeAngelo, Lampitt/Gordon, Greenstein)** - Requires certain notifications for termination of services to persons with developmental disabilities and providers
  
- **A-4476wGR/S-2876 (Conaway/Codey)** - Requires certain surgical practices and ambulatory care facilities licensed in this State to be owned by hospital or medical school located in the State
  
- **A-4719/S-3250 (Moriarty, Mosquera, Vainieri Huttie, DeAngelo, Diegnan, Mukherji/Cruz-Perez, Ruiz)** - Extends use of stored driver's license picture for person undergoing chemotherapy or other treatment for certain medical illnesses
  
- **CC for A-4863/S-3233 (A.M. Bucco, Phoebus, Munoz, Wisniewski, Oliver/A.R. Bucco)** - Requires warning sign to be posted at pontoon boat rental businesses; designated as "Christopher's Law"
  
- **AJR-112/SJR-86 (Conaway/Weinberg)** - Designates May of each year as "Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month"

#### BILLS POCKET VETOED:

- **S-221/A-4155 (Allen, Vitale/Vainieri Huttie, Sumter, Lampitt)** - Prohibits the restraint of prisoners during and immediately after childbirth
  
- **S-316/A-1739 (Gordon/Eustace, Ciattarelli, Lagana, Gusciora)** - Increases flexibility, clarity, and available tools of optional municipal consolidation process
  
- **S-564/A-4186 (Smith, Bateman/Eustace, McKeon, Spencer, Benson)** - Establishes "Solar Roof Installation Warranty Program" in EDA and transfers \$2 million from societal benefits charge to initially fund program

- **S-602/A-3254 (Codey, Vitale/Vainieri Huttle, Angelini, Lampitt, Diegnan, Jasey, Conaway, Moriarty)** - Raises minimum age for purchase and sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices from 19 to 21
- **SCS for S-726, 1257/ACS for A-1405 (Turner, Cruz-Perez, Beach, T. Kean/Lampitt, Egan, Quijano, Sumter, Danielsén)** - Establishes innovation zone program to stimulate technology industry clusters around New Jersey's research institutions; allows certain technology businesses located in certain innovation zones to receive certain tax credits under Grow New Jersey Assistance Program
- **S-1232/A-3314 (Weinberg, Pennacchio/Johnson, Greenwald, Wimberly, Mosquera)** - Establishes Office of State Dental Director and New Jersey Oral Health Commission
- **S-1279/A-2325 (Rice, Van Drew/Spencer, Muoio, Benson, Pintor Marin)** - Makes FY 2016 supplemental Grants-in-Aid appropriation of \$10 million to DCA for Lead Hazard Control Assistance Fund
- **S-1414/A-2405 (Smith, Bateman/Eustace, Benson, Johnson)** - Concerns low emission and zero emission vehicles; establishes Clean Vehicle Task Force
- **SCS for S-1420/ACS for A-1603 (Beach, Whelan, Smith, Sweeney, Bateman, Thompson/Spencer, Eustace, Quijano, Wimberly)** - Requires paint producers to implement or participate in paint stewardship program
- **S-1436/A-4687 (Rice/Green, Holley)** - Exempts sales to homeowner assistance and recovery programs from realty transfer fees
- **S-1594/A-4044 (Turner/Peterson, Lagana, Rible, Jasey, Wimberly)** - Requires a public school district to provide a daily recess period for students in grades kindergarten through 5
- **S-1961/A-4111 (Codey/McKeon, Jasey, Vainieri Huttle, Garcia)** - Establishes certain minimum and maximum temperatures in emergency shelters, rooming and boarding houses, and certain nursing homes and residential health care facilities
- **S-2143/ACS for A-1682, 3547 (Van Drew, Singer/Wisniewski, Andrzejczak, Webber)** - Establishes time periods for adverse possession of certain property
- **S-2375/A-3700 (Vitale, Singer/Mazzeo, Vainieri Huttle, Lagana, Sumter, A.M. Bucco)** - Provides for licensure of ambulatory care facilities to provide integrated primary care services including behavioral health care
- **S-2491/A-4069 (Smith/Danielsen, Pinkin, Benson)** - Establishes position of State Oceanographer
- **S-2515/A-3269 (Scutari/Mukherji, Burzichelli, McKeon, Garcia)** - Confers title of Acting Associate Justice of the Supreme Court on certain judges of the Superior Court, Appellate Division, temporarily assigned to the Supreme Court
- **SCS for S-2521/ACS for A-3888 (Gill, Allen/Lampitt, Benson, Vainieri Huttle, Eustace)** - Establishes Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Advisory Council
- **S-2623/A-4849 (Turner/Wimberly, Mainor, Johnson)** - Requires law enforcement agencies in this State to establish minority recruitment and selection programs; establishes reporting requirement



- **S-2640/A-4026 (Madden, Pou/Lampitt, Mosquera, Vainieri Huttie)** - Establishes New Jersey Caregiver Task Force to evaluate and provide recommendations on caregiver support services
  
- **S-2711/A-4128 (Smith, Whelan/Mazzeo, DeAngelo, Spencer, Singleton, McKeon, Danielsens, Johnson)** - Permits BPU to approve qualified wind energy project; requires BPU to provide application periods for those projects
  
- **S-2716/A-4359 (Ruiz, Turner/Pintor Marin, Spencer, Sumter, Caride)** - Requires that school district's request for permission to use unrecognized position title include list of abolished positions and positions in which there have been layoffs and detailed job descriptions for them
  
- **S-2769/AS for ACS for A-4197, 4206 (Smith, Bateman/Andrzejczak, McKeon, Spencer, Pintor Marin, Dancer, Vainieri Huttie)** - Implements 2014 constitutional dedication of CBT revenues for certain environmental purposes; revises State's open space, farmland, and historic preservation programs
  
- **S-2793/A-3962 (Whelan/Vainieri Huttie)** - Increases from 17 to 21 public members of New Jersey State Council on the Arts; requires members to be residents of NJ; imposes specific criteria for four new members initially appointed
  
- **S-2806/A-4913 (Cunningham, Vitale, Singer/Muoio, Spencer)** - Removes restrictions on convicted drug offenders receiving general assistance benefits under Work First New Jersey program
  
- **S-2878/A-4636 (Stack, Weinberg/Jimenez, Lagana, Mukherji, Vainieri Huttie, Giblin, Moriarty)** - Establishes minimum certified nurse aide-to-resident ratios in nursing homes
  
- **S-2975/A-4548 (Sarlo, Pou/Wimberly)** - Establishes pilot program in Paterson authorizing non-disclosure of records of certain expungements
  
- **S-3067/A-4653 (Barnes, Turner/Diegnan, Oliver)** - Requires teachers of health and physical education in grades kindergarten through six in public schools to possess appropriate endorsement to instructional certificate
  
- **S-3071/A-4639 (Weinberg, Gordon/Vainieri Huttie, Garcia, Eustace, Johnson)**  
Establishes Mike Adler Aphasia Task Force to assess needs of persons with aphasia, and their families, and ensure adequate provision of support services and information thereto
  
- **S-3201/A-3607 (Barnes, Holzapfel/Dancer, McGuckin, Rible, A.M. Bucco)** - Requires interior light of motor vehicle be turned on when stopped by law enforcement under certain circumstances
  
- **S-3244/A-2740 (Ruiz, Sarlo/Diegnan, Johnson, Jasey)** - Eliminates school district budget per pupil administrative cost limits
  
- **S-3249/A-4717 (Weinberg, Codey/Johnson, Vainieri Huttie, Eustace, Garcia)** - Requires firearm retailers to sell personalized handguns
  
- **S-3277/A-4764 (Cruz-Perez/Burzichelli)** - Expands municipal authority to license and inspect residential rental property
  
- **S-3299/A-4903 (Sweeney, Singer, Vitale/Burzichelli, Rible, Pintor Marin, Mukherji, Lagana, Vainieri Huttie)** -

Maintains property tax exemption for certain nonprofit hospitals with on-site for-profit medical providers; requires these hospitals to pay community service contributions to host municipalities; establishes Nonprofit Hospital Community Service Contribution Study Commission

- **S-3416/A-4808 (Lesniak, Sarlo/Eustace, Gusciora)** - Prohibits possession, transport, import, export, processing, sale, or shipment of parts and products of certain animal species threatened with extinction
- **SJR-77/A-JR104 (Bateman, Whelan/Ciattarelli, McKeon, Eustace)** - Permits county commissioners of registration and boards of election to conduct "Electronic Poll Book Demonstration Project" in certain districts during 2016 elections; requires Division of Elections review and approval of proposed projects
- **A-431/S-2773 (Jimenez/Singer)** - Requires clinical laboratory that provides services for accountable care organization to establish clinical laboratory testing advisory board
- **A-943/S-2967 (Singleton, Conaway, Moriarty, Green, Lampitt, Mazzeo/Van Drew)** - Permits small businesses to qualify for loans from NJEDA for costs of energy audit and making energy efficiency or conservation improvements
- **A-945/S-2402 (Singleton, Lampitt, Schaer, Wimberly, Garcia/Rice, Turner)** - Establishes New Jersey Council on Responsible Fatherhood and Responsible Fatherhood Fund
- **A-964/S-187 (Singleton, DeAngelo, Quijano, Coughlin, Moriarty/Whelan, Madden)** - Requires certain bidders for prevailing wage public work to provide proof that the prevailing wage will be paid
- **A-986/S-247 (Andrzejczak, Benson, Danielsen, Moriarty/Van Drew, Cunningham)** - Establishes telemarketing fraud investigation unit
- **A-1035/S-2040 (Benson, Rible, A.M. Bucco/Scutari, Cardinale)** - Prohibits health insurance carriers from requiring optometrists to become providers with vision care plans as condition of becoming providers in carriers' panel of providers
- **A-1039/S-2310 (Benson, Prieto, Caride, Quijano/Sacco, Greenstein)** - Sets forth certain standards to be followed by law enforcement agencies and fire departments when utilizing drones
- **A-1431/S-1501 (Caride, Singleton, Jasey/Bateman, Addiego)** - Requires State Board of Education regulations regarding school nurse certification to include certain minimum eligibility requirements
- **A-1849/S-1766 (Lampitt, Spencer/Rice)** - Prohibits State Board of Education from limiting number of certain two-year college credits that may be applied towards meeting teacher certification requirements
- **A-2026/S-3317 (Greenwald, Pintor Marin/Sweeney, Oroho)** - Realigning the transfer inheritance tax payment due date to coincide with the payment due dates for State and federal estate taxes
- **A-2583 (DeAngelo, Pintor Marin)** - Requires development of fact sheet about bedbugs to be posted on the Department of Education's website
- **A-2586/S-1796 (DeAngelo, Quijano, Benson/Greenstein)** - Establishes "Energy Infrastructure Study Commission"

- **A-2925/S-1033 (Lagana, O'Scanlon, Burzichelli, Garcia/Weinberg, Oroho, Van Drew)** - Allows modernization for the form of disbursement for certain State government and local unit payments to individuals and business entities
- **A-3460/S-2191 (Conaway, Pinkin, Sumter, Casagrande, Wimberly/Vitale, Cruz-Perez)** - Requires Medicaid coverage for diabetes self-management education, training, services, and equipment for patients diagnosed with diabetes, gestational diabetes, and pre-diabetes
- **A-3806/S-2493 (Singleton, Dancer, Mosquera, Benson/Sweeney, Weinberg)** - Establishes four-year pilot program in Ocean County for electronic monitoring of certain domestic violence offenders; designated as "Lisa's Law"; appropriates \$2.5 million
- **A-4182/S-1995 (Eustace, Sumter, Wimberly, Danielsen, Jimenez/Bateman, Smith)** - Prohibits firearm possession by persons convicted of carjacking, gang criminality, racketeering and terroristic threats
- **A-4271/S-3036 (Conaway, Benson, Pinkin, Wimberly/Vitale, Greenstein)** - Mandates health benefits coverage for opioid analgesics with abuse-deterrent properties
- **A-4343/S-2888 (Schaer, Prieto, Sumter, Danielsen, Johnson/Turner)** - Requires county and municipal police departments to establish cultural diversity training course and plan
- **A-4384/S-3145 (DeAngelo, Pintor Marin, Danielsen, Schaer, Johnson/Whelan)** - Requires BPU to render decision on case within 12 months of final public hearing or hold another public hearing prior to deciding case
- **ACS for A-4576/S-1771 (Johnson, Wimberly, Spencer, Tucker/Turner)** - Requires lowest possible price not exceeding certain cap for inmate telephone calls
- **A-4616/S-2958 (Giblin, DeAngelo, Mukherji/Sweeney)** - Extends by two months seasonal retail consumption alcoholic beverage license
- **A-4652/S-3065 (Benson/Gordon)** - Requires Public Health Counsel to promulgate rules and regulations for use of quality control programs in bio-analytical and clinical laboratories
- **A-4763/SS for SCS for S-2973 (McKeon, Spencer, Pinkin/Smith, Bateman, Greenstein, Codey)** - Revises "Electronic Waste Management Act"
- **A-4772/S-3169 (Burzichelli/Weinberg)** - Permits counties to impose one-percent hotel tax
- **A-4773/S-3146 (Eustace, Garcia, Gusciora/Lesniak)** - Prohibits possession and transport of parts and products of certain animals at PANYNJ airports and port facilities
- **A-4918/S-3301 (Gusciora, S. Kean/Sweeney, Singer)** - Clarifies stadiums and arenas owned by local government entities are exempt from property taxation
- **A-4931/S-3325 (Mazzeo/Sweeney)** - Revises "Casino Property Tax Stabilization Act"

- **NO ACTION TAKEN ON BILLS:**

- **A-3981wGR/S-2572 (Mazzeo, Burzichelli, Andrzejczak/Sweeney, Whelan)** - "Casino Property Taxation Stabilization Act"

- **A-3984wGR/S-2575 (Mazzeo, Burzichelli, Giblin/Sweeney, Whelan)** - Reallocates casino investment alternative tax to Atlantic City to pay debt service on municipal bonds issued

- **A-3985wGR/S-2576 (Mazzeo, Burzichelli, Andrzejczak, Giblin/Sweeney, Whelan)** - Removes provisions of law relating to Atlantic City Alliance

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