



LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

Compiled by the NJ State Law Library

LAWS OF: 1998

CHAPTER: 35

NJSA:30:5B-5.3

"Smoking -- Child Care Centers"

BILL NO: A553(Substituted for S204)

SPONSOR(S): Russo and Zecker

DATE INTRODUCED: January 13, 1998

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY:Health

SENATE:Health

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY: February 19, 1998

SENATE: May 18, 1998

DATE OF APPROVAL: June 30, 1998

THE FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL: 1st reprint

(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

A553

SPONSORS STATEMENT: *Yes* (Begins on page 3 of original bill)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY: *Yes*

SENATE: *Yes*

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: *No*

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: *No*

S204

SPONSORS STATEMENT: *Yes* (Begins on page 3 of original bill)
(Bill and Sponsors Statement identical to A553)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY: *No*

SENATE: *Yes* (Identical to Assembly Statement for A553)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: *No*

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: *No*

VETO MESSAGE: *No*

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: *Yes*

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

*To check for circulating copies contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library
(609) [278-2640 ext. 102](tel:6092782640) or refdesk@njstatelib.org*

REPORTS: *No*

HEARINGS: *No*

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: *No*

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 553

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
208th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1998 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DAVID C. RUSSO

District 40 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman GERALD H. ZECKER

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

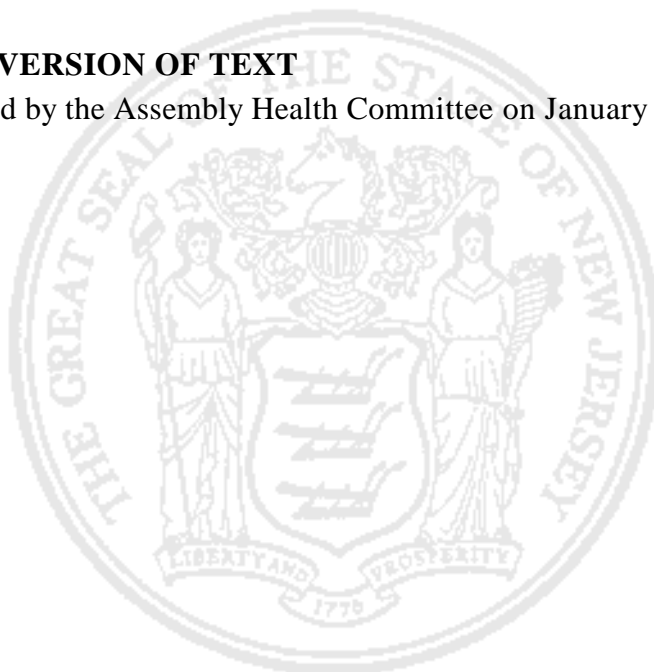
Assemblywoman Heck, Senators Sinagra, Adler and Inverso

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits smoking in child care centers when children are present.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Health Committee on January 29, 1998, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/19/1998)

1 AN ACT prohibiting smoking in child care centers and amending and
2 supplementing P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.).

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. (New section) a. The Legislature finds and declares that the
8 resolution of the conflict between the right of the smoker to smoke
9 and the right of the nonsmoker to breathe clean air involves a
10 determination of when and where, rather than whether, a smoker may
11 legally smoke. It is not the public policy of this State to deny anyone
12 the right to smoke. However, the Legislature finds that in those areas
13 affected by this act the right of children and nonsmoking employees to
14 breathe clean air should supersede the right of the smoker to smoke.
15 The purpose of this act, therefore, is to prohibit smoking in child care
16 centers.

17 b. Smoking is prohibited in an indoor area of a child care center
18 when children are present, and in all vehicles when used for
19 center-sponsored transportation. In addition, smoking is prohibited in
20 an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not
21 present unless ¹**[a fire wall separates the indoor area from any other**
22 **indoor area in which children are present]** that area is separately
23 ventilated to the outside¹. These prohibitions shall be so indicated by
24 the sponsor or other person who has control of the child care center
25 with a sign containing lettering not less than one inch in height stating
26 "Smoking Prohibited" or "Smoking Prohibited When Children Are
27 Present," as appropriate, or designated by the "Smoking Prohibited"
28 international symbol. The letters or symbol shall contrast in color with
29 the sign. Every sign required by this section shall be located so as to
30 be clearly visible to employees of the child care center and the public.

31 For the purposes of this section "smoking" means the burning of a
32 lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which
33 contains tobacco.

34
35 2. Section 9 of P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-9) is amended to read as
36 follows:

37 9. The department may deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew
38 a license for good cause, including, but not limited to:

- 39 a. Failure of a child care center or its sponsor to comply with the
40 provisions of this act;
41 b. Violation of the terms and conditions of a license by a child care

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ **Assembly AHL committee amendments adopted January 29, 1998.**

- 1 center or its sponsor;
- 2 c. Use of fraud or misrepresentation by a child care center or its
3 sponsor in obtaining a license or in the subsequent operation of the
4 center;
- 5 d. Refusal by a center or its sponsor to furnish the department with
6 required files, reports or records;
- 7 e. Refusal by a center or its sponsor to permit an inspection by an
8 authorized representative of the department during normal operating
9 hours;
- 10 f. Any conduct, engaged in or permitted, which adversely affects
11 or presents a serious hazard to the education, health, safety and
12 general well-being and physical and intellectual development of a child
13 attending the child care center, or which otherwise demonstrates
14 unfitness to operate a child care center; **【or】**
- 15 g. Failure to provide a developmental or age-appropriate program
16 that meets the physical, social, emotional and cognitive needs of the
17 children in the center as set forth by regulation; or
- 18 h. Failure of a child care center or its sponsor to comply with the
19 provisions of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.)(pending before the
20 Legislature as this bill).
- 21 (cf: P.L.1983, c.492, s.9)
- 22
- 23 3. This act shall take effect on the 60th day after enactment.

ASSEMBLY, No. 553

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1998 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DAVID C. RUSSO

District 40 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman GERALD H. ZECKER

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits smoking in child care centers when children are present.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT prohibiting smoking in child care centers and amending and
2 supplementing P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.).

3

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

6

7 1. (New section) a. The Legislature finds and declares that the
8 resolution of the conflict between the right of the smoker to smoke
9 and the right of the nonsmoker to breathe clean air involves a
10 determination of when and where, rather than whether, a smoker may
11 legally smoke. It is not the public policy of this State to deny anyone
12 the right to smoke. However, the Legislature finds that in those areas
13 affected by this act the right of children and nonsmoking employees to
14 breathe clean air should supersede the right of the smoker to smoke.
15 The purpose of this act, therefore, is to prohibit smoking in child care
16 centers.

17 b. Smoking is prohibited in an indoor area of a child care center
18 when children are present, and in all vehicles when used for
19 center-sponsored transportation. In addition, smoking is prohibited in
20 an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not
21 present unless a fire wall separates the indoor area from any other
22 indoor area in which children are present. These prohibitions shall be
23 so indicated by the sponsor or other person who has control of the
24 child care center with a sign containing lettering not less than one inch
25 in height stating "Smoking Prohibited" or "Smoking Prohibited When
26 Children Are Present," as appropriate, or designated by the "Smoking
27 Prohibited" international symbol. The letters or symbol shall contrast
28 in color with the sign. Every sign required by this section shall be
29 located so as to be clearly visible to employees of the child care center
30 and the public.

31 For the purposes of this section "smoking" means the burning of a
32 lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which
33 contains tobacco.

34

35 2. Section 9 of P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-9) is amended to read as
36 follows:

37 9. The department may deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew
38 a license for good cause, including, but not limited to:

39 a. Failure of a child care center or its sponsor to comply with the
40 provisions of this act;

41 b. Violation of the terms and conditions of a license by a child care
42 center or its sponsor;

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 c. Use of fraud or misrepresentation by a child care center or its
2 sponsor in obtaining a license or in the subsequent operation of the
3 center;

4 d. Refusal by a center or its sponsor to furnish the department with
5 required files, reports or records;

6 e. Refusal by a center or its sponsor to permit an inspection by an
7 authorized representative of the department during normal operating
8 hours;

9 f. Any conduct, engaged in or permitted, which adversely affects
10 or presents a serious hazard to the education, health, safety and
11 general well-being and physical and intellectual development of a child
12 attending the child care center, or which otherwise demonstrates
13 unfitness to operate a child care center; **[or]**

14 g. Failure to provide a developmental or age-appropriate program
15 that meets the physical, social, emotional and cognitive needs of the
16 children in the center as set forth by regulation; or

17 h. Failure of a child care center or its sponsor to comply with the
18 provisions of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.)(pending before the
19 Legislature as this bill).

20 (cf: P.L.1983, c.492, s.9)

21

22 3. This act shall take effect on the 60th day after enactment.

23

24

25

STATEMENT

26

27 This bill prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center
28 when children are present, and in all vehicles when used for
29 center-sponsored transportation. The bill also prohibits smoking in an
30 indoor area of a child care center even when children are not present
31 unless a fire wall separates the indoor area from any other indoor area
32 in which children are present.

33 In addition, the bill requires the sponsor or other person who has
34 control of the child care center to post a sign in the child care center
35 which is clearly visible to employees and the public stating "Smoking
36 Prohibited" or "Smoking Prohibited When Children Are Present," as
37 appropriate, in lettering not less than one inch in height or which
38 provides the "Smoking Prohibited" international symbol. The letters
39 or symbol are to contrast in color with the sign.

40 The bill provides that the Department of Human Services may deny,
41 suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a child care center's license for
42 failure to comply with the provisions of the bill.

43 "Smoking" is defined in the bill as the burning of a lighted cigar,
44 cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which contains tobacco.

45 The bill takes effect on the 60th day after its enactment.

ASSEMBLY HEALTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 553

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 29, 1998

The Assembly Health Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 553

As amended by the committee, this bill prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center when children are present, and in all vehicles when used for center-sponsored transportation. The bill also prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not present unless that area is separately ventilated to the outside.

In addition, the bill requires the sponsor or other person who has control of the child care center to post a sign in the child care center which is clearly visible to employees and the public stating "Smoking Prohibited" or "Smoking Prohibited When Children Are Present," as appropriate, in lettering not less than one inch in height or which provides the "Smoking Prohibited" international symbol. The letters or symbol are to contrast in color with the sign.

The bill provides that the Department of Human Services may deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a child care center's license for failure to comply with the provisions of the bill.

"Smoking" is defined in the bill as the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which contains tobacco.

The bill takes effect on the 60th day after its enactment.

The committee amendments prohibit smoking in an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not present unless that area is separately ventilated to the outside. (The original bill prohibited indoor smoking in a child care center even when children are not present unless a fire wall separates the indoor area from any other indoor area in which children are present.)

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 1998-99 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 553

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 26, 1998

The Senate Health Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 553 (1R).

This bill prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center when children are present, and in all vehicles when used for center-sponsored transportation. The bill also prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not present unless that area is separately ventilated to the outside.

In addition, the bill requires the sponsor or other person who has control of the child care center to post a sign in the child care center which is clearly visible to employees and the public stating "Smoking Prohibited" or "Smoking Prohibited When Children Are Present," as appropriate, in lettering not less than one inch in height or which provides the "Smoking Prohibited" international symbol. The letters or symbol are to contrast in color with the sign.

The bill provides that the Department of Human Services may deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a child care center's license for failure to comply with the provisions of the bill.

"Smoking" is defined in the bill as the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which contains tobacco.

The bill takes effect on the 60th day after its enactment.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 204 SCA (Sinagra/Adler), which the committee also reported favorably on this date.

SENATE, No. 204

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1998 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator JACK SINAGRA

District 18 (Middlesex)

Senator JOHN H. ADLER

District 6 (Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits smoking in child care centers when children are present.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT prohibiting smoking in child care centers and amending and
2 supplementing P.L.1983. c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.).

3

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

6

7 1. (New section) a. The Legislature finds and declares that the
8 resolution of the conflict between the right of the smoker to smoke
9 and the right of the nonsmoker to breathe clean air involves a
10 determination of when and where, rather than whether, a smoker may
11 legally smoke. It is not the public policy of this State to deny anyone
12 the right to smoke. However, the Legislature finds that in those areas
13 affected by this act the right of children and nonsmoking employees to
14 breathe clean air should supersede the right of the smoker to smoke.
15 The purpose of this act, therefore, is to prohibit smoking in child care
16 centers.

17 b. Smoking is prohibited in an indoor area of a child care center
18 when children are present, and in all vehicles when used for
19 center-sponsored transportation. In addition, smoking is prohibited in
20 an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not
21 present unless a fire wall separates the indoor area from any other
22 indoor area in which children are present. These prohibitions shall be
23 so indicated by the sponsor or other person who has control of the
24 child care center with a sign containing lettering not less than one inch
25 in height stating "Smoking Prohibited" or "Smoking Prohibited When
26 Children Are Present," as appropriate, or designated by the "Smoking
27 Prohibited" international symbol. The letters or symbol shall contrast
28 in color with the sign. Every sign required by this section shall be
29 located so as to be clearly visible to employees of the child care center
30 and the public.

31 For the purposes of this section "smoking" means the burning of a
32 lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which
33 contains tobacco.

34

35 2. Section 9 of P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-9) is amended to read as
36 follows:

37 9. The department may deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew
38 a license for good cause, including, but not limited to:

39 a. Failure of a child care center or its sponsor to comply with the
40 provisions of this act;

41 b. Violation of the terms and conditions of a license by a child care
42 center or its sponsor;

43 c. Use of fraud or misrepresentation by a child care center or its

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 sponsor in obtaining a license or in the subsequent operation of the
2 center;

3 d. Refusal by a center or its sponsor to furnish the department with
4 required files, reports or records;

5 e. Refusal by a center or its sponsor to permit an inspection by an
6 authorized representative of the department during normal operating
7 hours;

8 f. Any conduct, engaged in or permitted, which adversely affects
9 or presents a serious hazard to the education, health, safety and
10 general well-being and physical and intellectual development of a child
11 attending the child care center, or which otherwise demonstrates
12 unfitness to operate a child care center; **[or]**

13 g. Failure to provide a developmental or age-appropriate program
14 that meets the physical, social, emotional and cognitive needs of the
15 children in the center as set forth by regulation; or

16 h. Failure of a child care center or its sponsor to comply with the
17 provisions of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.)(pending before the
18 Legislature as this bill).

19 (cf: P.L.1983, c.492, s.9)

20

21 3. This act shall take effect on the 60th day after enactment.

22

23

24

STATEMENT

25

26 This bill prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center
27 when children are present and in all vehicles when used for
28 center-sponsored transportation. The bill also prohibits smoking in an
29 indoor area of a child care center even when children are not present
30 unless a fire wall separates the indoor area from any other indoor area
31 in which children are present.

32 In addition, the bill requires the sponsor or other person who has
33 control of the child care center to post a sign in the child care center
34 which is clearly visible to employees and the public stating "Smoking
35 Prohibited" or "Smoking Prohibited When Children Are Present," as
36 appropriate, in lettering not less than one inch in height or which
37 provides the "Smoking Prohibited" international symbol. The letters
38 or symbol are to contrast in color with the sign.

39 The bill provides that the Department of Human Services may deny,
40 suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a child care center's license for
41 failure to comply with the provisions of the bill.

42 "Smoking" is defined in the bill as the burning of a lighted cigar,
43 cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which contains tobacco.

44 The bill takes effect on the 60th day after its enactment.

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 204

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 26, 1998

The Senate Health Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 204.

As amended by committee, this bill prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center when children are present and in all vehicles when used for center-sponsored transportation. The bill also prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not present unless that area is separately ventilated to the outside.

In addition, the bill requires the sponsor or other person who has control of the child care center to post a sign in the child care center which is clearly visible to employees and the public stating "Smoking Prohibited" or "Smoking Prohibited When Children Are Present," as appropriate, in lettering not less than one inch in height or which provides the "Smoking Prohibited" international symbol. The letters or symbol are to contrast in color with the sign.

The bill provides that the Department of Human Services may deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a child care center's license for failure to comply with the provisions of the bill.

"Smoking" is defined in the bill as the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which contains tobacco.

The bill takes effect on the 60th day after its enactment.

The committee amendments prohibit smoking in an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not present unless that area is separately ventilated to the outside. (The original bill prohibited indoor smoking in a child care center even when children are not present unless a fire wall separates the indoor area from any other indoor area in which children are present.)

This bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 553 (1R) (Russo/Zecker), which the committee also reported favorably on this date.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 1998-1999 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

Office of the Governor
NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX 004
TRENTON, NJ 08625

CONTACT: Jayne O'Connor
Julie Plocinik
609-777-2600

RELEASE: June 30, 1998

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following legislation:

S-2001, sponsored by Senator Robert Littell (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Assembly Members Richard Bagger (R- Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Joseph Charles (D-Hudson), makes various FY 1998 supplemental appropriations totaling \$105,403,932 in state funds and \$579,254 in federal funds and appropriates \$15 million in bond funds. Projects funded through this bill include: \$400,000 for the purchase of protective vests for law enforcement, \$750,000 to support a toll free telephone system for dealing with the Division of Motor Vehicles services, \$285,000 for computer equipment to run criminal history background checks on school employees, and \$15 million in property tax relief aid to the City of Camden and the creation of a financial oversight board for the city, and \$15 million for sewer overflow abatement projects for the Passaic River/Newark Bay Restoration Program.

A-2141, sponsored by Assembly Member Francis Blee (R-Atlantic) and Senators Louis Bassano (R-Essex/Union) and Leonard Connors (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Ocean), establishes an annual assessment of 5.8 percent of gross revenue on all intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded. The revenue generated by the assessment will be used to reduce the Developmental Disabilities waiting list for placement in community residences.

A-673, sponsored by Assembly Members Jack Gibson and Nicholas Asselta and Senator James Cafiero (all R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland), authorizes municipalities to regulate skateboards and roller skates upon roadways and public properties under their jurisdiction. This law supplements legislation signed January 19, requiring helmets for skaters under 14 years of, by ensuring that municipalities have the ability to regulate skating activities to protect skaters, motorists and other pedestrians in their communities.

A-553, sponsored by Assembly Members David Russo (R- Bergen/Passaic) and Gerald Zecker (R-Essex/Passaic) and Senators Jack Sinagra (R-Middlesex) and John Adler (D-Camden), prohibits smoking in child care centers when children are present.

A-1902, sponsored by Assembly Member Richard Bagger (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Louis Romano (D-Hudson) and Senator Robert Littell (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris), authorizes the State Treasurer to determine the salary of the Director and Deputy Director of the Division of Investment and authorizes the Treasurer to designate an additional deputy director.

S-851, sponsored by Senators Joseph Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Norman M.

Robertson (R-Essex/Passaic) and Assembly Member Christopher "Kip" Bateman (R-Morris/Somerset), revises statutes providing for criminal history record checks of school employees and school bus drivers. The bill expands the list of disqualifying crimes; deletes a provision authorizing the employment of a persons with a disqualifying crime if rehabilitation has been demonstrated and prohibits schools from provisionally hiring candidates pending completion of their criminal history record checks, except in limited circumstances.

A-1996, gives the state Treasurer the authority to bundle old, difficult to collect tax debt represented as tax certificates and enter into a contract with a financial institution after public bidding. The financial institution would assume ownership of the debt and replace the state as the collector. The bill was sponsored by Assembly Members Paul DiGaetano (R- Bergen/Essex/Passaic) and Richard Bagger (R-Middlesex/Morris /Somerset/Union) and Senators Walter Kavanaugh (R-Morris/Somerset) and Peter Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex).

S-1002, which amends the state's Business Employment Incentive Program (BEIP) Act to encourage partnerships and limited liability companies to participate in the BEIP program and locate or expand in New Jersey. Companies that create jobs in New Jersey by either moving to the state or expanding operations are eligible to receive incentive grants which are based upon the income taxes paid by the newly-hired employees. The new legislation amends the law to allow estimated taxes paid by partners to be included in the BEIP calculation, thereby increasing the amount of the BEIP grant for partnerships and limited liability companies and providing them with an incentive to move to New Jersey. The bill was sponsored by Senators Joseph Kyrillos, Jr. (R- Middlesex/Monmouth) and Bernard Kenny, Jr. (D-Hudson) and Assembly Members Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth) and Joseph Azzolina (R- Middlesex/Monmouth).

A-2190, sponsored by Assembly Members Francis Blee (R-Atlantic) and Carol Murphy (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic), expands the Drug Utilization Review Board in the Department of Human Services for state-funded pharmaceutical benefits programs. The powers of the Board will include review of the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) and the AIDS Drug Distribution programs. Membership of the Board shall include individuals with expertise in the prescribing of medication to the geriatric and AIDS populations to address specific needs of these individuals. The bill appropriates \$90,000 for establishment of the Review Board.

A- 1690, eliminates the requirement in the current charity care law that the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) seek federal approval to establish a permanent state-wide program for providing hospital charity care services on a managed care basis. The bill permits the Commissioner of Human Services to seek federal approval to establish a demonstration managed charity care program, within a single region or county, for a two-year period in order to test the programmatic and fiscal viability of delivering charity care services by this alternative means. The bill was sponsored by Assembly Members Nicholas Asselta (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Joseph Doria, Jr. ((D-Hudson) and by Senators John Matheussen (R-Camden/Gloucester) and John Bennett (R-Monmouth).

S-990, sponsored by Senator Louis Bassano (R-Essex/Union) and Bernard Kenny (D-Hudson), establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services. The legislation, an administration initiative,

extends the availability of food stamps to certain noncitizens covered under E.O. 74, which expires today. The program provides broader coverage than the legislation passed in Congress earlier this month. The bill will also provide coverage for individuals who are considered unemployable under the WorkFirst New Jersey Program and are ineligible for federal Supplemental Security Income benefits.