

17: 48A-34

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

(Nurse - midwife services--eligible for medical service insurance)

NJSA 17:48A-34

LAWS 1982

CHAPTER 171

Bill No. S400

Sponsor(s) Dalton

Date Introduced Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly Banking and Insurance

Senate Labor, Industry and Professions

Amended during passage Yes ~~No~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly Sept. 30, 1982

Senate May 10, 1982

Date of approval Nov. 9, 1982

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~No~~

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~No~~

Senate Yes ~~No~~

Fiscal Note ~~Yes~~ No

Veto Message ~~Yes~~ No

Message on signing ~~Yes~~ No

Following were printed:

Reports ~~Yes~~ No

Hearings ~~Yes~~ No

New Jersey law on mid-wives:
N.J.S.A. 45:10-1 thru 45:10-16

Regulations:
N.J.A.C. 8:43B-16.1
N.J.A.C. 13:35-9 et seq.

6/22/81

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171 11-9-82

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SENATE, No. 400

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1982 SESSION

By Senator DALTON

AN ACT to include nurse-midwifery services as eligible for reimbursement under Medical Service Corporation insurance contracts and supplementing P. L. 1940, c. 74 (C. 17:48A-1 et seq.).

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

1 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of P. L. 1940, c. 74
2 (C. 17:48A-1 et seq.), benefits shall not be denied to any eligible
3 individual for eligible services when the services are performed
4 or rendered those individuals by a ***[licensed]*** **certified** nurse-
5 midwife within the scope of his practice. The practice of nurse-
6 midwifery shall be deemed to be within the provisions of P. L. 1940,
7 c. 74 and duly ***[licensed]*** **certified** nurse-midwives shall have
8 such privileges and benefits in the scope of their practice under
9 the act as are afforded thereunder to licensed physicians and sur-
10 geons in the scope of their practice.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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 printed in italics *thus* is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

*—Senate committee amendments adopted March 15, 1982.

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3 individual for eligible services when the services are performed
4 or rendered those individuals by a licensed nurse-midwife within
5 the scope of his practice. The practice of nurse-midwifery shall be
6 deemed to be within the provisions of P. L. 1940, c. 74 and duly
7 licensed nurse-midwives shall have such privileges and benefits in
8 the scope of their practice under the act as are afforded thereunder
9 to licensed physicians and surgeons in the scope of their practice.

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STATEMENT

A certified nurse-midwife is a modern health professional trained to provide pre-natal, childbirth and post-natal obstetric services for the essentially normal pregnancy and birth. The nurse-midwife is examined and licensed under New Jersey law. A number of physicians practicing in New Jersey have chosen to work as members of an obstetric team with certified nurse-midwives; many families choose medical care that will include the services of a nurse-midwife. The use of nurse-midwives for the essentially normal patient can provide significant cost-containment. However, health insurance provided by Blue Shield of New Jersey pursuant to the Medical Service Corporation Act of 1940, as amended, does not directly reimburse insured persons for that care, because the act does not name the nurse-midwife as an alternative to an "eli-

ASSEMBLY BANKING AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 400

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 20, 1982

Senate Bill No. 400 requires a medical service corporation to reimburse any certified nurse-midwife providing eligible plan services that come within the scope of authorized activities of a certified nurse-midwife registered in New Jersey. This bill does not mandate new coverage, but merely affords reimbursement to certified nurse-midwives providing plan services.

Certified nurse-midwives are registered and regulated by the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners. Certified nurse-midwives are registered nurses licensed in New Jersey, with additional specialized training for the purpose of providing health services to mother and/or child prior to, at, and after birth. Such services must be rendered through a health care system through which the services of a licensed physician are available. Among other things, a certified nurse-midwife may manage the labor and delivery of a normal patient at any location, including the mother's home, provided a physician is available on call. The board of medical examiners recently revised its regulations to permit nurse-midwives, as part of doctor-nurse-midwife team, to provide care, under certain circumstances, to pregnant women with higher-than-average chances of developing complications.

SENATE LABOR, INDUSTRY AND PROFESSIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 400

with Senate committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 15, 1982

The bill provides that whenever a Medical Service Corporation insurance contract provides for reimbursement for any service which is within the lawful scope of practice of a certified nurse-midwife, the nurse-midwife may be entitled to reimbursement for the service.

Certified nurse-midwives are regulated and registered by the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners. A certified nurse-midwife is a registered professional nurse who has had specialized midwifery training. She is trained to manage the care of essentially normal newborns at the time of delivery and essentially normal women during the antepartum, intrapartum, and post-partum periods, including family planning.

This bill only applies to Blue Shield and similar insurers and it does not apply to commercial carriers.

Technically, a nurse-midwife is registered and not licensed by the Board of Medical Examiners and her title is certified nurse-midwife and not licensed nurse-midwife. The committee amended the bill to reflect this fact.