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ASSEMBLY, No. 1223

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2000 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOSEPH R. MALONE, III

District 30 (Burlington, Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblyman MELVIN COTTRELL

District 30 (Burlington, Monmouth and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Greenstein

SYNOPSIS

Requires State Health Benefits Program managed care plans to give 90-days notice to enrollees if primary care physician is terminated from plan.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/9/2000)

1 AN ACT concerning the State Health Benefits Program and
2 supplementing P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.25 et seq.).

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

6
7 1. a. The State Health Benefits Commission shall ensure that every
8 contract purchased by the commission on or after the effective date of
9 this act provides that if an enrollee's or member's primary care
10 physician's contract as a participating physician in a health maintenance
11 organization or NJ PLUS will be terminated, the health maintenance
12 organization or NJ PLUS, as appropriate, shall provide the enrollee or
13 member with 90-days notice of the termination. If 90-days notice
14 cannot be provided because the termination will occur prior to the end
15 of the 90-day period, the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS
16 shall notify the enrollee or member as soon as the health maintenance
17 organization or NJ PLUS has knowledge of the termination.

18 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any policy governing open
19 enrollment to the contrary, an enrollee or member who has been
20 notified by a health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS pursuant to
21 this section may change his coverage to another health benefits plan
22 under the State Health Benefits Program upon receiving notice that his
23 primary care physician will no longer be a participating physician with
24 the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS, in which the person
25 is currently enrolled.

26
27 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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30 STATEMENT

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32 This bill requires the State Health Benefits Program to ensure that
33 any person covered under the program who is enrolled in a health
34 maintenance organization or the NJ PLUS plan, shall be provided with
35 90-days notice if that person's primary care physician will be
36 terminated from the provider network. Upon receiving such
37 notification, the covered person shall be permitted to change coverage
38 to another health benefits plan, even though the physician's
39 termination may occur outside of the annual open enrollment period.

40 The provisions of this bill will give public employees covered under
41 the State Health Benefits Program who are enrollees of health
42 maintenance organizations or participants in NJ PLUS more flexibility
43 in selecting a new primary care physician if their physician's
44 participation in their current plan is terminated prior to the annual
45 open enrollment period.

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1223

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 8, 2000

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1223.

This bill provides that the State Health Benefits Program will require its health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and NJ PLUS to give any person enrolled in one of these health benefits plans 90-day notice if the person's primary care physician is to be terminated from the provider network. If 90-day notice cannot be provided because the termination will occur within a shorter period, the HMOs and NJ PLUS will notify an enrollee as soon as they know of the termination. After receipt of such notification, the person will be permitted to change coverage to another health benefits plan, even though the physician's termination may occur outside of the annual open enrollment period.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 2000-2001 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1223

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 22, 2000

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1223.

Assembly Bill No. 1223 provides that the State Health Benefits Program will require its health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and NJ PLUS to give any person enrolled in one of these health benefits plans 90-day notice if the person's primary care physician is to be terminated from the provider network. If 90-day notice cannot be provided because the termination will occur within a shorter period, the HMOs and NJ PLUS will notify an enrollee as soon as they know of the termination. After receipt of such notification, the person will be permitted to change coverage to another health benefits plan, even though the physician's termination may occur outside of the annual open enrollment period.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Insufficient information is available concerning program physician turnover rates to estimate the number of program participants affected; however, the bill's creation of extended effective open enrollment periods for the affected program participants is anticipated to increase program administrative costs.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1223

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2000 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOSEPH R. MALONE, III

District 30 (Burlington, Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblyman MELVIN COTTRELL

District 30 (Burlington, Monmouth and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

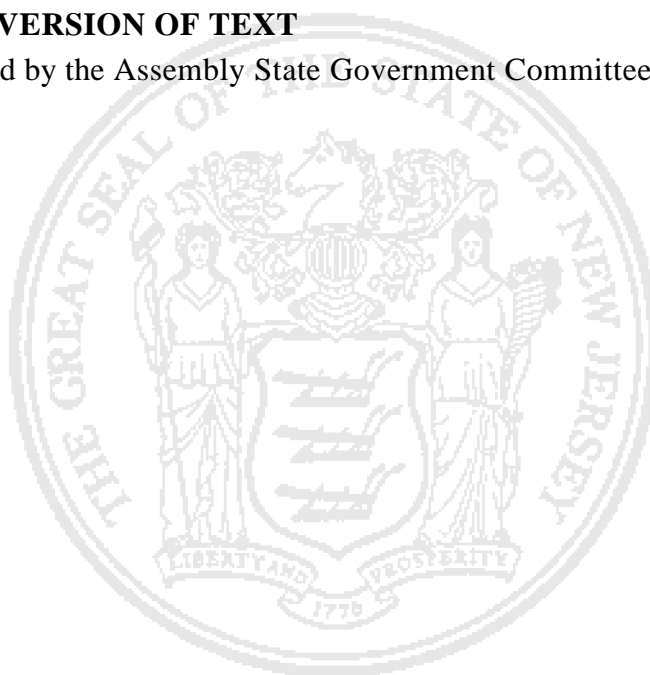
Assemblywoman Greenstein, Assemblymen Conaway, Geist and Gusciora

SYNOPSIS

Requires State Health Benefits Program managed care plans to give 90-days notice to enrollees if primary care physician is terminated from plan.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly State Government Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/27/2000)

1 AN ACT concerning the State Health Benefits Program and
2 supplementing P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.25 et seq.).

3

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

6

7 1. a. The State Health Benefits Commission shall ensure that every
8 contract purchased by the commission on or after the effective date of
9 this act provides that if an enrollee's or member's primary care
10 physician's contract as a participating physician in a health maintenance
11 organization or NJ PLUS will be terminated, the health maintenance
12 organization or NJ PLUS, as appropriate, shall provide the enrollee or
13 member with 90-days notice of the termination. If 90-days notice
14 cannot be provided because the termination will occur prior to the end
15 of the 90-day period, the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS
16 shall notify the enrollee or member as soon as the health maintenance
17 organization or NJ PLUS has knowledge of the termination.

18 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any policy governing open
19 enrollment to the contrary, an enrollee or member who has been
20 notified by a health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS pursuant to
21 this section may change his coverage to another health benefits plan
22 under the State Health Benefits Program upon receiving notice that his
23 primary care physician will no longer be a participating physician with
24 the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS, in which the person
25 is currently enrolled.

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27 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1223

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 31, 2001

The Senate State Government Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1223.

This bill provides that the State Health Benefits Commission include a provision in its contracts with health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and NJ PLUS, entered into on or after the enactment of this bill, that any person enrolled in one of these health benefits plans have 90-days notice if the person's primary care physician is to be terminated from the provider network. If the 90-day notice cannot be provided because the termination will occur within a shorter period, the HMOs or NJ PLUS will notify an enrollee as soon as they know of the termination. After receipt of such notification, the person will be permitted to change coverage to another health benefits plan under the State Health Benefits Program even though the change may occur outside of the annual open enrollment period.

P.L. 2001, CHAPTER 284, *approved December 27, 2001*
Assembly, No. 1223

1 AN ACT concerning the State Health Benefits Program and
2 supplementing P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.25 et seq.).

3

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

6

7 1. a. The State Health Benefits Commission shall ensure that every
8 contract purchased by the commission on or after the effective date of
9 this act provides that if an enrollee's or member's primary care
10 physician's contract as a participating physician in a health maintenance
11 organization or NJ PLUS will be terminated, the health maintenance
12 organization or NJ PLUS, as appropriate, shall provide the enrollee or
13 member with 90-days notice of the termination. If 90-days notice
14 cannot be provided because the termination will occur prior to the end
15 of the 90-day period, the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS
16 shall notify the enrollee or member as soon as the health maintenance
17 organization or NJ PLUS has knowledge of the termination.

18 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any policy governing open
19 enrollment to the contrary, an enrollee or member who has been
20 notified by a health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS pursuant to
21 this section may change his coverage to another health benefits plan
22 under the State Health Benefits Program upon receiving notice that his
23 primary care physician will no longer be a participating physician with
24 the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS, in which the person
25 is currently enrolled.

26

27 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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32 Requires State Health Benefits Program managed care plans to give
33 90-days notice to enrollees if primary care physician is terminated from
34 plan.

CHAPTER 284

AN ACT concerning the State Health Benefits Program and supplementing P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.25 et seq.).

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

C.52:14-17.29g Notice to enrollees in State Health Benefits managed care programs if primary care physician is terminated from plan.

1. a. The State Health Benefits Commission shall ensure that every contract purchased by the commission on or after the effective date of this act provides that if an enrollee's or member's primary care physician's contract as a participating physician in a health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS will be terminated, the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS, as appropriate, shall provide the enrollee or member with 90-days notice of the termination. If 90-days notice cannot be provided because the termination will occur prior to the end of the 90-day period, the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS shall notify the enrollee or member as soon as the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS has knowledge of the termination.

b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any policy governing open enrollment to the contrary, an enrollee or member who has been notified by a health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS pursuant to this section may change his coverage to another health benefits plan under the State Health Benefits Program upon receiving notice that his primary care physician will no longer be a participating physician with the health maintenance organization or NJ PLUS, in which the person is currently enrolled.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved December 27, 2001.