

SENATE, No. 2284

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 31, 2005

Sponsored by:

Senator DIANE ALLEN

District 7 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Mandates health insurance coverage for Lyme disease vaccination.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning coverage for vaccines to prevent Lyme disease
2 and supplementing Titles 17 and 26 of the Revised Statutes and
3 Title 17B of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7
8 1. A hospital service corporation which provides hospital or
9 medical expense benefits under a contract that is delivered, issued,
10 executed or renewed in this State or approved for issuance or renewal
11 in this State by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, on or
12 after the effective date of this act, shall provide benefits under the
13 contract for expenses incurred for a vaccination to prevent Lyme
14 disease.

15 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
16 medical condition under the contract.

17 This section shall apply to those hospital service corporation
18 contracts in which the hospital service corporation has reserved the
19 right to change the premium.

20

21 2. A medical service corporation which provides hospital or medical
22 expense benefits under a contract that is delivered, issued, executed or
23 renewed in this State or approved for issuance or renewal in this State
24 by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, on or after the
25 effective date of this act, shall provide benefits under the contract for
26 expenses incurred for a vaccination to prevent Lyme disease.

27 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
28 medical condition under the contract.

29 This section shall apply to those medical service corporation
30 contracts in which the medical service corporation has reserved the
31 right to change the premium.

32

33 3. A health service corporation which provides hospital or medical
34 expense benefits under a contract that is delivered, issued, executed or
35 renewed in this State or approved for issuance or renewal in this State
36 by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, on or after the
37 effective date of this act, shall provide benefits under the contract for
38 expenses incurred for a vaccination to prevent Lyme disease.

39 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
40 medical condition under the contract.

41 This section shall apply to those health service corporation
42 contracts in which the health service corporation has reserved the right
43 to change the premium.

44

45 4. A group health insurer which provides hospital or medical

1 expense benefits under a policy that is delivered, issued, executed or
2 renewed in this State or approved for issuance or renewal in this State
3 by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, on or after the
4 effective date of this act, shall provide benefits for expenses incurred
5 for a vaccination to prevent Lyme disease.

6 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
7 medical condition under the policy.

8 This section shall apply to those insurance policies in which the
9 insurer has reserved the right to change the premium.

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11 5. An individual health insurer which provides hospital or medical
12 expense benefits under a policy that is delivered, issued, executed or
13 renewed in this State or approved for issuance or renewal in this State
14 by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, on or after the
15 effective date of this act, shall provide benefits for expenses incurred
16 for a vaccination to prevent Lyme disease.

17 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
18 medical condition under the policy.

19 This section shall apply to those insurance policies in which the
20 insurer has reserved the right to change the premium.

21

22 6. A certificate of authority to establish and operate a health
23 maintenance organization in this State shall not be issued or continued
24 on or after the effective date of this act, unless the health maintenance
25 organization provides health care services for a vaccination to prevent
26 Lyme disease.

27 The health care services shall be provided to the same extent as for
28 any other medical condition under the contract.

29 The provisions of this section shall apply to those health
30 maintenance organization contracts for health care services under
31 which the health maintenance organization has reserved the right to
32 change the schedule of charges.

33

34 7. Every individual health benefits plan that is delivered, issued,
35 executed or renewed in this State pursuant to P.L.1992, c.161
36 (C.17B:27A-2 et seq.) or approved for issuance or renewal in this
37 State, on or after the effective date of this act, shall provide benefits
38 for expenses incurred for a vaccination to prevent Lyme disease.

39 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
40 medical condition under the health benefits plan.

41 The provisions of this section shall apply to all health benefit plans
42 in which the carrier has reserved the right to change the premium.

43

44 8. Every small employer health benefits plan that is delivered,
45 issued, executed or renewed in this State pursuant to P.L.1992, c.162
46 (C.17B:27A-17 et seq.) or approved for issuance or renewal in this

1 State, on or after the effective date of this act, shall provide benefits
2 for expenses incurred for a vaccination to prevent Lyme disease.

3 The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other
4 medical condition under the health benefits plan.

5 The provisions of this section shall apply to all health benefit plans
6 in which the carrier has reserved the right to change the premium.

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8 9. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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13 This bill requires hospital, medical and health service corporations,
14 individual, small employer and large group insurers and health
15 maintenance organizations to cover the expenses of a vaccination to
16 prevent Lyme disease.