

ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4225

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 23, 2009

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4225.

This bill amends P.L.2007, c.170 (C.26:2-185 et seq.) to provide for the inclusion on a voluntary basis of information about adults with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in the registry established under that law.

The bill provides specifically as follows:

- An adult who has been diagnosed as having an ASD by a physician, psychologist, or any other health care professional licensed pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised Statutes who is qualified by training to make the diagnosis, and whose diagnosis has not been reported pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2007, c.170 (C.26:2-186), may, at his discretion, report this diagnosis, or request that a health care professional on his behalf report this diagnosis, to the Department of Health and Senior Services in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services.
- The report is to be in writing and include the name and address of the person submitting the report, the name, age, place of birth, and address of the adult diagnosed as having an ASD, and other pertinent information as may be required by the commissioner.
- The commissioner is to specify procedures for the health care professional to inform the adult of the provisions of this bill and the purpose served by including this information in the registry established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2007, c.170 (C.26:2-187).
- The bill takes effect on the 180th day after enactment, but authorizes the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services to take anticipatory administrative action in advance as necessary for its implementation.

This bill is based upon a recommendation included in the October 2009 report of the Adults with Autism Task Force.