

[First Reprint]

## **ASSEMBLY, No. 3546**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## **215th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 6, 2012

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman CELESTE M. RILEY**

**District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)**

**Assemblyman JOHN J. BURZICHELLI**

**District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)**

**Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO**

**District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

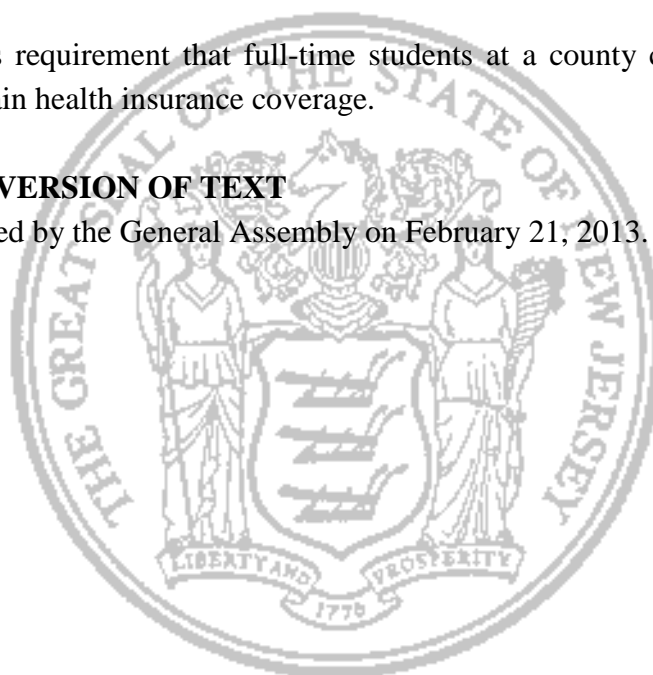
**Assemblywomen Angelini, Mosquera, Assemblymen Rumana, Caputo and  
Assemblywoman Sumter**

**SYNOPSIS**

Eliminates requirement that full-time students at a county college in New Jersey maintain health insurance coverage.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As amended by the General Assembly on February 21, 2013.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/22/2013)**

1 AN ACT concerning health insurance coverage for students at  
 2 institutions of higher education and amending <sup>1</sup>and  
 3 supplementing<sup>1</sup> P.L.1991, c.187.

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

7  
 8 1. Section 77 of P.L.1991, c.187 (C.18A:62-15) is amended to  
 9 read as follows:

10 77. a. **Every student enrolled as a full-time student at a public**  
 11 **or private institution of higher education in this State shall maintain**  
 12 **health insurance coverage which provides basic hospital benefits.**  
 13 **The coverage shall be maintained throughout the period of the**  
 14 **student's enrollment.**

15 b. Every student enrolled as a full-time student shall present  
 16 evidence of the health insurance coverage required by subsection a.  
 17 of this section to the institution at least annually, in a manner  
 18 prescribed by the institution.

19 c. <sup>1</sup>Every student enrolled as a full-time student at a public or  
 20 private institution of higher education in this State, other than a  
 21 county college, shall maintain health insurance coverage that meets  
 22 the essential health benefits requirements of the federal "Patient  
 23 Protection and Affordable Care Act," Pub.L.111-148, as amended  
 24 by the federal "Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of  
 25 2010," Pub.L.111-152. The coverage shall be maintained  
 26 throughout the period of the student's enrollment.

27 b. Every student enrolled as a full-time student at a public or  
 28 private institution of higher education in this State, other than a  
 29 county college, shall present evidence of the health insurance  
 30 coverage required by subsection a. of this section to the institution  
 31 at least annually, in a manner prescribed by the institution.

32 c.<sup>1</sup> The **State**<sup>1</sup> Department of Health shall require all public  
 33 and private institutions of higher education in this State to offer  
 34 health insurance coverage on a group or individual basis for  
 35 purchase by students who are **required to maintain the coverage**  
 36 **pursuant to this section** enrolled full-time at the institution.

37 **d.**<sup>1</sup> **b.**<sup>1</sup> d.<sup>1</sup> The Commissioner of Health shall adopt rules  
 38 and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
 39 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.)<sup>1, 1</sup> to carry out the purposes of  
 40 **subsections a., b. and c.**<sup>1</sup> **subsection a.**<sup>1</sup> subsections a., b., and  
 41 c.<sup>1</sup> of this section.

42 **e.** The Student Assistance Board in but not of the Department  
 43 of the Treasury shall adopt rules and regulations to require that a

**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 underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly floor amendments adopted February 21, 2013.

1 public or private institution of higher education in this State  
2 consider the coverage required pursuant to this section as an  
3 educational cost for purposes of determining a student's eligibility  
4 for financial aid.

5 f. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a  
6 hospital in this State to deny access to hospital care to a full-time  
7 student whose health insurance coverage required by this section  
8 lapses for any reason.

9 g. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a person  
10 who is a participant in the REACH program established pursuant to  
11 P.L.1987, c.282 (C.44:10-9 et seq.).**】**

12 <sup>1</sup>e. The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority shall  
13 adopt rules and regulations to require that a public or private  
14 institution of higher education in this State consider the coverage  
15 required pursuant to this section as an educational cost for purposes  
16 of determining a student's eligibility for financial aid.

17 f. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a  
18 hospital in this State to deny access to hospital care to a full-time  
19 student whose health insurance coverage required by this section  
20 lapses for any reason.

21 g. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a person  
22 who is a participant in the Work First New Jersey program  
23 established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.).<sup>1</sup>  
24 (cf: P.L.1994, c.48, s.87)

25  
26 <sup>1</sup>2. (New section) Nothing in section 77 of P.L.1991, c.187  
27 (C.18A:62-15) shall be construed to preclude a county college from  
28 requiring a full-time student to present evidence of health insurance  
29 coverage to the institution at least annually, in a manner prescribed  
30 by the institution.<sup>1</sup>

31  
32 <sup>1</sup>3. (New section) Each public and private institution of higher  
33 education shall collect data on the percentage of full-time students  
34 enrolled in the institution who have health insurance coverage and  
35 on the source of the coverage, and shall annually forward the data  
36 to the Secretary of Higher Education.<sup>1</sup>

37  
38 <sup>1</sup>**【2.】** <sup>4.</sup><sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect immediately.