

**SENATE, No. 2373**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**216th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO**

**District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Lesniak**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services to annually prepare, and make available to the public, a substance abuse treatment provider performance report.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning substance abuse treatment facility performance,  
2 and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

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7 1. a. The Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services in  
8 the Department of Human Services shall, at least annually, prepare  
9 a Substance Abuse Treatment Provider Performance Report in  
10 accordance with the provisions of this section. The division shall  
11 post a copy of the report on its website, and shall make a hard copy  
12 of the report available to the public, upon request.

13 b. The performance report shall: (1) compare the overall  
14 performance of each substance abuse treatment provider with the  
15 Statewide average performance of all such providers, based on  
16 nationally recognized outcome measures for each level of care; and  
17 (2) rank each substance abuse treatment provider, by level of care,  
18 based on their performance.

19 c. The performance report shall include the following:

20 (1) A client profile that presents: (a) aggregated background  
21 information about clients, which was obtained at the time of their  
22 admission to treatment, including the percentage of clients by  
23 category of gender, race, age, primary substance used, source of  
24 income, and sources of referral to treatment; and (b) aggregated  
25 discharge status of clients, including the situations in which clients  
26 have been released from treatment, and the percentages of clients  
27 experiencing similar discharge situations;

28 (2) Reference to National Outcome Measures (NOMS)  
29 prescribed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services  
30 Administration, which evaluate the status of clients in six critical  
31 domains of living at the time of admission compared to the time of  
32 discharge, including:

33 (a) the percentage difference between clients who are abstinent  
34 from alcohol at admission compared to discharge;

35 (b) the percentage difference between clients who are abstinent  
36 from other drugs at admission compared to discharge;

37 (c) the percentage difference between clients who are employed  
38 full-time and part-time at admission compared to discharge;

39 (d) the percentage difference between clients who are enrolled  
40 in school or a job training program at admission compared to  
41 discharge;

42 (e) the percentage difference between clients who are arrested in  
43 the 30-day period preceding admission compared to the 30-day  
44 period following discharge; and

45 (f) the percentage difference between clients who are homeless  
46 at admission compared to discharge;

47 (3) Reference to consumer-driven performance measures,  
48 including the variety of services offered by a substance abuse

1 treatment provider, and whether the provider participates in the  
2 Medicaid program, treats co-occurring disorders, uses evidence-  
3 based practices, and is tobacco-free; and

4 (4) Any other information the Assistant Commissioner deems  
5 appropriate.

6 d. As used in this section:

7 “Assistant Commissioner” means the Assistant Commissioner  
8 for the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction  
9 Services in the Department of Human Services.

10 “Client” means a person who received treatment for substance  
11 abuse from a substance abuse treatment provider during the annual  
12 reporting period.

13 “Substance abuse treatment provider” means any substance  
14 abuse treatment provider that is licensed by the Division of Mental  
15 Health and Addiction Services in the Department of Human  
16 Services.

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18 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month  
19 following the date of enactment.

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#### STATEMENT

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24 This bill requires the Division of Mental Health and Addiction  
25 Services (DMHAS) in the Department of Human Services to  
26 prepare, at least annually, a Substance Abuse Treatment Provider  
27 Performance Report. The division would be required to post a copy  
28 of the report on its Internet website, and make hard copies of the  
29 report available to the public, upon request.

30 The bill requires the report to: (1) compare the overall  
31 performance of each substance abuse treatment provider with the  
32 Statewide average performance of all such providers, based on  
33 nationally recognized outcome measures (NOMS) for each level of  
34 care; and (2) rank each substance abuse treatment provider, by level  
35 of care, based on their performance. NOMS attempt to capture  
36 meaningful, real life outcomes for people who are striving to attain  
37 and sustain recovery and participate fully in their communities in  
38 the wake of receiving treatment for an active addiction to drugs or  
39 alcohol.

40 Specifically, the bill would require the report to include:

- 41 • A client profile that presents: (a) background information  
42 about clients that is obtained at the time of their admission to  
43 treatment, including the percentages of clients by categories  
44 of gender, race, age, primary substance used, source of  
45 income, and sources of referral to treatment; and (b)  
46 discharge status of clients, including the situations in which  
47 the client leaves treatment, and the percentages of clients  
48 experiencing similar discharge situations;

- 1       • Reference to NOMS prescribed by the Substance Abuse and  
2       Mental Health Services Administration, which provide  
3       information regarding a client's status at admission and  
4       discharge in six critical domains of living, such as: alcohol  
5       use at admission compared to discharge; other drug use at  
6       admission compared to discharge; employment status (both  
7       full-time and part-time) at admission compared to discharge;  
8       enrollment in school or a job training program at admission  
9       compared to discharge; arrest status in the 30-day period  
10      preceding admission compared to the 30-day period  
11      following discharge; and homelessness at admission  
12      compared to discharge;
- 13      • Reference to consumer-driven performance measures, such  
14      as the variety of services offered by the provider, or whether  
15      the provider participates in the Medicaid program, treats co-  
16      occurring disorders, uses evidence-based practices, and is  
17      tobacco-free; and
- 18      • Any other information the Assistant Commissioner deems  
19      appropriate.

20      The DMHAS currently collects and compiles the information  
21      required pursuant to this bill, and makes the performance  
22      information available on a Statewide and provider-specific basis to  
23      providers in the State, but it does not make the provider-specific  
24      performance reports available to members of the public. Objective  
25      performance information about substance abuse providers in the  
26      State is not otherwise available to consumers who are seeking  
27      substance abuse treatment services, which compounds the difficulty  
28      of selecting the most appropriate treatment provider. The purpose  
29      of this bill, therefore, is to ensure that consumers of substance abuse  
30      treatment services have access to a vital tool to help them select the  
31      most appropriate treatment provider.