### [First Reprint]

## ASSEMBLY, No. 4803

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 10, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)** 

Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex)

Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN

District 20 (Union)

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

**District 19 (Middlesex)** 

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywomen Speight, Murphy, McKnight, Lopez, Jasey, Senators Cunningham, Greenstein and Madden

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Authorizes certain entities to directly bill Victims of Crime Compensation Office for counseling services provided to victims of firearm and stabbing crimes.

### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on June 13, 2019, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/14/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning victims of crime and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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- 1. a. In the event that a person is the victim of a firearm or stabbing injury incurred during the course of an offense described in subsection b. of section 11 of P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-11), and the person receives counseling in connection with the injury, the entity providing counseling services may directly bill the Victims of Crime Compensation <sup>1</sup>[Agency] Office <sup>1</sup> for the counseling services, provided that:
- (1) the counseling was provided by a licensed psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, or therapist, or by a peer or support counselor or other individual authorized by the Victims of Crime Compensation <sup>1</sup>[Agency] Office <sup>1</sup> to provide such counseling while under the supervision of a licensed professional;
- (2) the person providing the counseling is affiliated with the hospital where the victim received treatment for the injury or is affiliated with a hospital-based or hospital-linked violence intervention program recognized by the Victims of Crime Compensation <sup>1</sup>[Agency] Office <sup>1</sup>;
- (3) the victim reported the injury to law enforcement within nine months after its occurrence or reasonable discovery, except that, notwithstanding the requirements of section 18 of P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-18), a report made after such time shall not be deemed to bar a claim for compensation for counseling services if the victim was admitted to the hospital for the injury and the victim consents to the hospital releasing records of the admission to the Victims of Crime Compensation <sup>1</sup>[Agency] Office<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>[and]<sup>1</sup>
- 32 (4) the victim has consented in writing to the entity directly
  33 billing the Victims of Crime Compensation <sup>1</sup>[Agency] Office <sup>1</sup>
  34 pursuant to this section <sup>1</sup>; and
  - (5) the victim has filed a claim with the Victims of Crime Compensation Office that is deemed eligible for counseling services pursuant to P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-1 et seq.).
- Compensation to be paid for counseling services provided under this section shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of subsection b. of this section and section 19 of P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-19)<sup>1</sup>.
- b. The Victims of Crime Compensation <sup>1</sup>[Agency] Office <sup>1</sup> shall establish by regulation the maximum amount of compensation that may directly billed pursuant to subsection a. of this section,

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted June 13, 2019.

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- which in any case shall not exceed \$1,000 in connection with a given injury.
  - c. An entity that directly bills for counseling services pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall not bill the victim or any other person or entity in any amount for any counseling services for which it received compensation from the Victims of Crime Compensation <sup>1</sup>[Agency] Office <sup>1</sup> pursuant to this section.

2. The Victims of Crime Compensation <sup>1</sup>[Agency] Office <sup>1</sup> may, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

15 3. This act shall take effect the first day of the fourth month next following the date of enactment.