

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4915

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 17, 2019

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

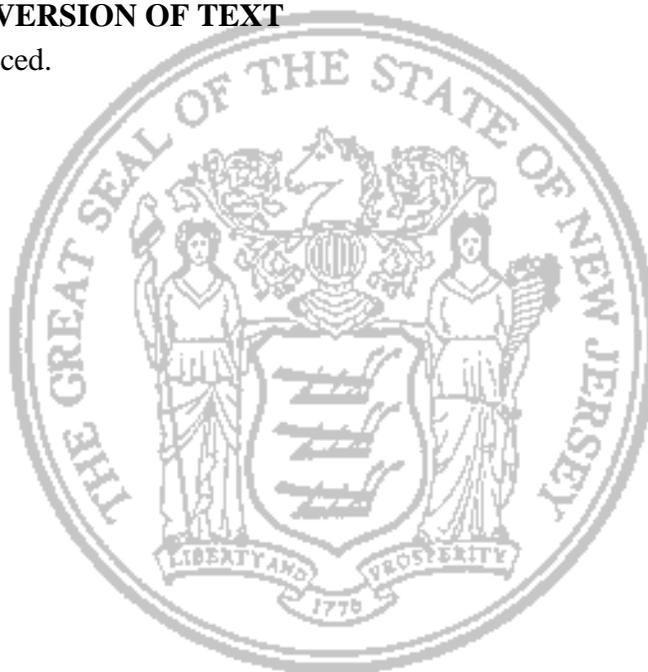
**Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywomen Pinkin, Jimenez, Assemblyman Tully and Assemblywoman McKnight**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires health insurance carriers to provide list of alternative drugs to health care professionals and covered persons under certain circumstances.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/15/2019)**

1 AN ACT concerning prescription drug benefit coverage and  
2 supplementing P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-1 et al.).  
3

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

7 1. A carrier that offers a health benefits plan in this State which  
8 provides coverage for pharmacy services, prescription drugs, or for  
9 participation in a prescription drug plan, shall provide to a  
10 prescribing health care professional and to a covered person, in a  
11 situation in which the carrier denies a covered person's coverage for  
12 a drug prescribed by the health care professional, a written list of all  
13 alternative drugs that are covered by the health benefits plan and  
14 that are interchangeable with, and therapeutically equivalent to, the  
15 drug for which coverage was denied. The carrier shall provide the  
16 list of alternative drugs along with the explanation of benefits or  
17 other notice of the denial of coverage. For purposes of this section,  
18 "health care professional" means a person licensed to practice a  
19 health care profession pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised Statutes.  
20

21 2. This act shall take effect on the 90<sup>th</sup> day next following the  
22 date of enactment.  
23  
24

25 STATEMENT  
26

27 This bill supplements the "Health Care Quality Act" to require a  
28 carrier that offers a health benefits plan in this State which provides  
29 coverage for pharmacy services, prescription drugs, or for  
30 participation in a prescription drug plan, to provide to a prescribing  
31 health care professional and to a covered person, in a situation in  
32 which the carrier denies a covered person's coverage for a drug  
33 prescribed by the health care professional, a written list of all  
34 alternative drugs that are covered by the health benefits plan and  
35 that are interchangeable with, and therapeutically equivalent to, the  
36 drug for which coverage was denied. The carrier shall provide the  
37 list of alternative drugs along with the explanation of benefits or  
38 other notice of the denial of coverage.