

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 1820

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 21, 2018

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1820.

This bill, as amended, would establish a minimum \$19 hourly reimbursement rate for personal care services within the Medicaid program and requires that the rate increases realized by the provisions of the bill, less verifiable direct and indirect administrative costs of the employer related thereto, including, but not limited to, applicable payroll taxes and insurance costs, are to be used solely to increase wages for workers who directly provide personal care services.

The bill also requires that providers receiving reimbursement for personal care services through Medicaid annually report to the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services in DHS regarding the use of such funds received as reimbursement.

The committee amended the bill to delete references to “direct care worker compensation” and inserted language requiring that any increases in the hourly reimbursement rate realized pursuant to the bill, less certain specific costs of the employer related thereto, be used solely to increase the wages for workers who directly provide personal care services. The amendments make corresponding changes to the reporting language in section 2 of the bill.