

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 115

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 10, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH PENNACCHIO**

**District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators A.R.Bucco, Rice and Thompson**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes New Jersey Pharmacogenomics Commission.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/5/2019)**

1   **A JOINT RESOLUTION** establishing the New Jersey  
2    Pharmacogenomics Commission.

3

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

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7       1.   a. There is established the New Jersey Pharmacogenomics  
8    Commission. The commission shall be responsible for examining  
9    Pharmacogenomics, which is the study of the relationship between a  
10   person's specific genetic makeup and the effectiveness or toxicity  
11   of medications used to treat any health-care related issue. The  
12   commission's examination shall include, but shall not be limited to:

13       (1) costs related to Pharmacogenomic testing currently and in  
14   the future;

15       (2) how implementing Pharmacogenomics may benefit  
16   prescribers, patients, and the State;

17       (3) various applications for Pharmacogenomics outside of  
18   medicine, such as the opioid crisis and others;

19       (4) the relationship between Pharmacogenomics applications in  
20   Personalized Medicine;

21       (5) the results of previous studies on prescribing medicines and  
22   treatments based on Pharmacogenomic science;

23       (6) methods of educating patients and prescribers on prescribing  
24   medicine and treatment based on genetic makeup;

25       (7) the relationship of Pharmacogenomics in the reduction of the  
26   number of deaths, disabilities, and hospitalization from Adverse  
27   Drug Events; and

28       (8) the expected costs and benefits from implementing  
29   Pharmacogenomics in the short-term and long-term.

30       b. The commission shall consist of ten members, to be  
31   appointed by the Governor as follows: a representative from the  
32   Department of Health; a representative from the Division of  
33   Pensions and Benefits in the Department of the Treasury; a  
34   representative from Rutgers Medical School; a representative from  
35   Rutgers School of Pharmacy; a representative from Fairleigh  
36   Dickinson School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; a  
37   representative from the New Jersey Hospital Association; a  
38   representative from the Medical of Society New Jersey; a  
39   representative from the New Jersey Pharmacists Association; a  
40   representative from the Department of Military and Veterans  
41   Affairs; and a professor of genetics.

42       c. Vacancies in the membership of the commission shall be  
43   filled as provided for the original appointments.

44       d. The commission shall organize as soon as practicable  
45   following the appointment of its members and shall select a  
46   chairperson from among the members. The chairperson shall  
47   appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the commission.

- 1 e. Members of the commission shall serve without  
2 compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses  
3 incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the  
4 commission within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise  
5 made available to the commission for its purposes.
- 6 f. The commission shall be entitled to call to its assistance and  
7 avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county, or  
8 municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it  
9 may require and as may be available to it for its purposes.
- 10 g. The Department of Health shall provide staff support to the  
11 commission.
- 12 h. (1) No later than six months after organization, the  
13 commission shall hold at least two public hearings, one each in  
14 northern New Jersey and southern New Jersey.
- 15 (2) For the purposes of this subsection, “northern New Jersey”  
16 means Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris,  
17 Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren counties; and  
18 “southern New Jersey” means Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape  
19 May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean, and  
20 Salem counties.
- 21 i. No later than six months after organization, the commission  
22 shall submit to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to  
23 section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), a report of its findings  
24 and recommendations for legislative, executive, or any other action  
25 as may be appropriate. The commission shall expire upon  
26 submission of its report.

27  
28 2. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.  
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31 STATEMENT  
32

33 This joint resolution establishes the New Jersey  
34 Pharmacogenomics Commission (commission). Under the  
35 resolution, the commission is to be responsible for examining  
36 Pharmacogenomics, which is the study of the relationship between a  
37 person’s specific genetic makeup and the effectiveness or toxicity  
38 of medications used to treat any health-care related issue. The  
39 commission’s examination is to include, but is not to be limited to:  
40 (1) costs related to Pharmacogenomic testing currently and in the  
41 future; (2) how implementing Pharmacogenomics may benefit  
42 prescribers, patients, and the State; (3) various applications for  
43 Pharmacogenomics outside of medicine, such as the opioid crisis  
44 and others; (4) the relationship between Pharmacogenomics  
45 applications in Personalized Medicine; (5) the results of previous  
46 studies on prescribing medicines and treatments based on  
47 Pharmacogenomic science; (6) methods of educating patients and  
48 prescribers on prescribing medicine and treatment based on genetic

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1 makeup; (7) the relationship of Pharmacogenomics in the reduction  
2 of the number of deaths, disabilities, and hospitalization from  
3 Adverse Drug Events; and (8) the expected costs and benefits from  
4 implementing Pharmacogenomics in the short-term and long-term.

5 The commission is to consist of ten members, to be appointed by  
6 the Governor as follows: a representative from the Department of  
7 Health; a representative from the Division of Pensions and Benefits  
8 in the Department of the Treasury; a representative from Rutgers  
9 Medical School; a representative from Rutgers School of Pharmacy;  
10 a representative from Fairleigh Dickinson School of Pharmacy and  
11 Health Sciences; a representative from the New Jersey Hospital  
12 Association; a representative from the Medical Society New  
13 Jersey; a representative from the New Jersey Pharmacists  
14 Association; a representative from the Department of Military and  
15 Veterans Affairs; and a professor of genetics.

16 The bill provides that the commission is to hold at least two  
17 public hearings, one each in northern New Jersey and southern New  
18 Jersey, and no later than six months after organization.