## ASSEMBLY, No. 3917 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 9, 2020

Sponsored by: Assemblyman JOHN CATALANO District 10 (Ocean) Assemblyman GREGORY P. MCGUCKIN District 10 (Ocean) Assemblyman ERIC HOUGHTALING District 11 (Monmouth) Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY District 11 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by: Assemblymen S.Kean, Thomson, Rumpf and Assemblywoman Gove

## **SYNOPSIS**

Creates monetary penalty for violating social mitigation strategy of barring or limiting social gatherings, implemented pursuant to "Emergency Health Powers Act," or government order issued pursuant to act, during declared public health emergency under act.



## A3917 CATALANO, MCGUCKIN

2

AN ACT creating a monetary penalty for violating certain provisions 1 2 of the "Emergency Health Powers Act," P.L.2005, c.222 3 (C.26:13-1 et seq.), or certain government orders issued pursuant 4 to that act, during a declared public health emergency under the 5 act, and amending P.L.2005, c.222. 6 7 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 8 of New Jersey: 9 10 1. Section 27 of P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-27) is amended to 11 read as follows: 12 27. The commissioner shall have the power to enforce the provisions of [this act] the "Emergency Health Powers Act," 13 14 P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.) through the issuance of orders 15 and such other remedies as are provided by law. Additionally, a 16 person who willfully or knowingly violates any provision of the act, 17 or any order issued pursuant to the act, that relates to a social 18 mitigation strategy barring all indoor or outdoor social gatherings. 19 or, if still permitted, hosts or participates in any indoor or outdoor social gathering with a number of people that exceeds the number 20 21 permitted to gather, which provision or order is intended to prevent 22 the transmission or spread of an infectious disease, biological agent, 23 toxic chemical from a chemical weapon, radioactive material from a 24 nuclear or radiological device, or overlap agent or toxin, during a 25 public health emergency declared by the Governor in accordance 26 with section 3 of P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-3) shall be liable for a 27 penalty of not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$10,000. The penalty shall be sued for and collected by the commissioner, along 28 29 with all costs associated with the commissioner's enforcement 30 action, in a summary proceeding before the Superior Court or 31 municipal court with territorial jurisdiction over the action pursuant 32 to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 33 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.). 34 (cf: P.L.2005, c.222, s.27) 35 2. This act shall take effect immediately. 36 37 38 39 **STATEMENT** 40 41 This bill would establish a monetary penalty, of not less than 42 \$5,000 and not more than \$10,000, for any person who willfully or 43 knowingly violates any provision of the "Emergency Health Powers 44 Act," P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.), or any order issued 45 pursuant to the act, that relates to a social mitigation strategy

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

Matter underlined <u>thus</u> is new matter.

## A3917 CATALANO, MCGUCKIN

3

1 barring all indoor or outdoor social gatherings or, if still permitted, 2 hosts or participates in any indoor or outdoor social gathering with 3 a number of people that exceeds the number permitted to gather, 4 which provision or order is intended to prevent the transmission or 5 spread of an infectious disease, biological agent, toxic chemical from a chemical weapon, radioactive material from a nuclear or 6 7 radiological device, or overlap agent or toxin, during a public health 8 emergency declared by the Governor under the act. The penalty 9 would be sued for and collected by the Commissioner of Health, 10 along with all costs associated with the commissioner's 11 enforcement action, in a summary proceeding before the Superior 12 Court or municipal court with territorial jurisdiction over the action 13 pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, 14 c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).

NITH