Sponsored by:
Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE
District 19 (Middlesex)
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District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS
Requires State and county correctional facilities to offer inmates hepatitis B and hepatitis C testing.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.
AN ACT concerning the testing of inmates for hepatitis B and hepatitis C and supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. The Commissioner of Corrections shall, upon commencement of the period of confinement, offer blood testing for hepatitis B and hepatitis C to every inmate who is sentenced to a term of incarceration at a State correctional facility. An inmate shall not be required to submit to the testing.

2. The chief executive officer, warden, or keeper of any county correctional facility shall, upon commencement of the period of confinement, offer blood testing for hepatitis B and hepatitis C to each person incarcerated in the facility. An inmate shall not be required to submit to the testing.

3. The Commissioner of Corrections shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to effectuate the purposes of this act.

4. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month after enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill requires State and county correctional facilities to offer inmates hepatitis B and hepatitis C testing. Under the bill, the Commissioner of Corrections is required to offer blood testing for hepatitis B and hepatitis C to every inmate who is sentenced to a term of incarceration at a State Correctional facility.

In addition, the bill provides that the chief executive officer, warden, or keeper of any county correctional facility is required to offer blood testing for hepatitis B and hepatitis C to each person incarcerated in the facility.

Under the bill, the testing at State and county correctional facilities would be offered upon commencement of the period of confinement. Finally, the bill provides that an inmate is not to be required to submit to the testing.