

**SENATE, No. 2629**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JUNE 29, 2020

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

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) testing for staff members of child care centers.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) testing  
2 and supplementing Chapter 5B of Title 30 of the Revised  
3 Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. The Department of Health shall require the administration  
9 of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) tests to every staff  
10 member of a child care center licensed pursuant to P.L. P.L.1983,  
11 c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.). The Department of Health shall require  
12 that:

13 (1) the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) tests be  
14 administered once every seven days on a staggered basis;

15 (2) the results of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) tests  
16 be expedited and provided to the child care center that employs the  
17 staff member within one day of the staff member's receipt of the  
18 results; and

19 (3) public and private laboratories, pharmacies, and drive  
20 through testing centers which administer coronavirus disease 2019  
21 (COVID-19) tests prioritize tests administered to the staff members  
22 of a child care center pursuant to this subsection.

23 b. The Department of Health shall require that, pursuant to  
24 section 15 of P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-15), persons who test  
25 positive for coronavirus disease 2019 pursuant to subsection a. of  
26 this section shall be isolated or quarantined to help reduce the  
27 transmission of infection.

28 c. The provisions of subsection a. of this section shall be  
29 carried out to the extent that necessary personnel, resources, and  
30 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) tests are available.

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32 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the "Administrative  
33 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to the  
34 contrary, the Department of Health shall, within 10 days upon filing  
35 the regulations with the Office of Administrative Law, adopt such  
36 temporary regulations as the department determines necessary to  
37 implement the provisions of this act. The regulations may  
38 thereafter be amended, adopted or readopted by the department as  
39 the department deems necessary in accordance with the  
40 requirements of the "Administrative Procedure Act."

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42 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire  
43 following the end of the Governor's declared public health  
44 emergency regarding the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

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STATEMENT

This bill stipulates that the Department of Health (DOH) require the administration of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) tests to every staff member of a child care center licensed pursuant to P.L. P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.).

Specifically, the DOH would require that: the COVID-19 tests be administered once every seven days on a staggered basis; the results of the tests be expedited and provided to the child care center that employs the staff member within one day of the staff member's receipt of the results; and public and private laboratories, pharmacies, and drive through testing centers which administer COVID-19 test prioritize the tests administered to the staff members of a child care center pursuant to the bill.

The DOH would also require that, pursuant to section 15 of P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-15), a staff member of a child care center who tests positive for COVID-19 would be isolated or quarantined to help reduce the transmission of infection. The bill's provisions would be carried out to the extent that necessary personnel, resources, and COVID-19 tests are available.