

ASSEMBLY, No. 413

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblywomen HECK and CRECCO

1 AN ACT establishing the New Jersey Commission on Women's Health
2 and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

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7 1. There is established the New Jersey Commission on Women's
8 Health.

9 The commission shall consist of 19 members, including the
10 Commissioners of Health, Human Services and Community Affairs,
11 and the Directors of the Division on Aging and the Division of Women
12 in the Department of Community Affairs, or their designees, who shall
13 serve *ex officio*. The President of the Senate shall appoint two
14 members of the Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly shall
15 appoint two members of the General Assembly, in each case no more
16 than one of whom shall be of the same political party. The Governor
17 shall appoint 10 public members who are residents of the State, five of
18 whom shall be health care professionals, at least one of whom
19 represents health care facilities and at least one of whom represents the
20 health insurance industry; five of whom shall be consumers of women's
21 health services. No less than seven of the public members shall be
22 women.

23 The term of office of each public member shall be three years, but
24 of the members first appointed, three shall be appointed for a term of
25 one year, three shall be appointed for a term of two years and four
26 shall be appointed for a term of three years. A public member shall
27 hold office for the term of his appointment and until his successor has
28 been appointed and qualified. A member of the Legislature shall serve
29 during his term of office. All vacancies shall be filled for the balance
30 of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.
31 A member of the commission is eligible for reappointment.

32 The public members of the commission shall not receive any
33 compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed for the actual
34 and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as
35 members of the commission, within the limits of funds available to the

1 commission.

2 The members of the commission shall annually elect a chairman and
3 a vice-chairman from among the public members and may select a
4 secretary, who need not be a member of the commission.

5 The Department of Health shall provide staff and assistance which
6 the commission requires to carry out its work.

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8 2. The commission shall:

9 a. Serve as an information and resource center for women's health
10 information and data;

11 b. Serve as an advocate for the adoption and implementation of
12 effective measures to improve women's health;

13 c. Review the programs of the Departments of Health, Human
14 Services and Community Affairs and any other department of State
15 government, as appropriate, that concern women's health and make
16 recommendations to the departments that will enable them to better
17 coordinate and improve the effectiveness of their efforts; and

18 d. Review and make recommendations to the Governor and the
19 Legislature on the needs, priorities, programs and policies relating to
20 women's health in this State.

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22 3. The commission shall be entitled to call upon the services of any
23 State, county or municipal department, board, commission or agency,
24 as may be available to it for these purposes, and to incur such traveling
25 and other miscellaneous expenses as it may deem necessary for the
26 proper execution of its duties and as may be within the limit of funds
27 appropriated or otherwise made available to it for these purposes.

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29 4. The commission shall report annually, by September 1 of each
30 year, to the Legislature and the Governor on any recommendations for
31 administrative or legislative action that it deems appropriate.

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33 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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38 This bill establishes a 19-member New Jersey Commission on
39 Women's Health. Members will include the Commissioners of Health,
40 Human Services and Community Affairs, and the Directors of the
41 Division on Aging and the Division of Women, or their designees, who
42 shall serve ex officio. The President of the Senate shall appoint two
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16 4. Review and make recommendations to the Governor and the
17 Legislature on the needs, priorities, programs and policies relating to
18 women's health in this State.

19 The commission is to report annually, by September 1 of each year,
20 to the Legislature and the Governor on any recommendations for
21 administrative or legislative action that it deems appropriate.

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