

ASSEMBLY, No. 944

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblyman FELICE

1 AN ACT concerning the provision of certain childhood vaccines and  
2 supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Interagency  
8 Vaccine Procurement Program Act."

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10 2. As used in this act:

11 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Health.

12 "Program" means the Interagency Vaccine Procurement Program.

13 "Vaccines" means the diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis vaccine, the oral  
14 live polio vaccine and the measles, mumps and rubella vaccines.

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16 3. The commissioner shall establish the Interagency Vaccine  
17 Procurement Program in conjunction with the Commissioner of  
18 Human Services, subject to federal participation.

19 a. The commissioner shall establish a contract with the federal  
20 Centers for Disease Control to purchase vaccines for distribution to  
21 health care providers who are participating in the Medicaid program  
22 established pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.), who are  
23 eligible to order and receive vaccines. The vaccines shall be used for  
24 the immunization of eligible Medicaid recipients, according to  
25 guidelines established by the commissioner in conjunction with the  
26 Commissioner of Human Services. Participating providers shall order  
27 the vaccines directly from the Department of Health.

28 b. The commissioner and the Commissioner of Human Services  
29 shall establish a written interagency agreement setting forth their  
30 mutual responsibilities under the program.

31 c. The commissioner shall be responsible for the storage,  
32 maintenance and distribution to eligible health care providers of the  
33 vaccines purchased under the program.

34 d. A health care provider who receives vaccines through this  
35 program at no cost to the provider shall not be reimbursed by the

1 Medicaid program for the cost of the vaccines but only for the cost of  
2 administering the vaccines to an eligible Medicaid recipient.

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4 4. The commissioner and the Commissioner of Human Services  
5 shall conduct a joint review, analysis and evaluation of the program  
6 and shall report to the Governor and the Legislature no later than 18  
7 months after the effective date of this act, and annually thereafter, on  
8 the operations and future needs of the program, and shall include in  
9 that report detailed financial data including, but not limited to, the cost  
10 to the State of purchasing and storing the vaccines, the number of  
11 providers participating in the program and the cost savings to the  
12 Medicaid program as a result of this program.

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14 5. The commissioner, in conjunction with the Commissioner of  
15 Human Services and pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
16 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) shall adopt rules and regulations  
17 to effectuate the purposes of this act.

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19 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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## 22 STATEMENT

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24 This bill requires the Commissioner of Health to establish the  
25 Interagency Vaccine Procurement Program in conjunction with the  
26 Commissioner of Human Services. The program will enable Medicaid  
27 providers to receive childhood vaccines (for measles, mumps, rubella,  
28 diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and oral polio virus) for the immunization  
29 of eligible Medicaid recipients from the Department of Health through  
30 a contract with the federal Centers for Disease Control, rather than  
31 having to purchase these vaccines on the open market where the cost  
32 is substantially greater.

33 The bill also requires the Commissioners of Health and Human  
34 Services to conduct a joint review, analysis and evaluation of the  
35 Interagency Vaccine Procurement Program and to report to the  
36 Governor and the Legislature no later than 18 months after the  
37 effective date of the bill, and annually thereafter, on the operations and  
38 future needs of the program. The report shall include detailed  
39 financial data including, but not limited to, the cost to the State of  
40 purchasing and storing the vaccines, the number of providers  
41 participating in the program and the cost savings to the Medicaid  
42 program as a result of this program.

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Designated the "Interagency Vaccine Procurement Program Act."