

CHAPTER 153

AN ACT concerning patient notification of insurance coverage of newborns and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

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

C.26:1A-36.15 Information relative to insurance coverage for newborn children.

1. a. The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, shall prepare and make available to each health care professional in the State informational literature on health insurance coverage for newborn children, which is to be provided to new parents in accordance with subsection b. of this section. At a minimum, the information shall inform new parents of: (1) the period of time during which applicable State and federal laws require a parent's health insurance policy to provide coverage for a newborn child; and (2) how to obtain coverage for the child after that period under the parent's policy, a separate private health insurance policy, or a public health coverage plan. The commissioner may make the informational literature available to health care professionals by posting it on the Department of Health's Internet website or by other electronic means.

b. The Department of Health shall require each health care professional in the State to provide new parents, including adoptive parents, with the informational literature specified in section a. of this section. The informational literature shall be distributed to the mother and any other adult family member, including adult adoptive family members where possible, during the mother's prenatal care appointments in the last trimester of pregnancy.

c. As used in this section "health care professional" means an individual who is licensed or certified pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised Statutes, and who provides prenatal health care services as a part of the individual's authorized scope of professional practice.

C.26:1A-36.16 Rules, regulations.

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

3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month next following the date of enactment, except that the Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, may take such anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.

Approved July 21, 2017.