

**HCANJ BUSINESS MEETING  
LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE  
November 12, 2025**

**1. Rule Adoptions**

- **The Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services adopted new rule N.J.A.C. 10:49-9.9, which sets forth the requirements for a Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare provider's use of electronic medical records and electronic signatures to maintain and submit documentation to the Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare program.**

The new rule defines the term "electronic record" as well as the term "electronic signature." They also provide examples of documents and communications where the use of an electronic signature would be acceptable for use by providers when communicating with the Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare program. Each institution's information technology department is responsible for the administration of the electronic signature system in accordance with specified requirements and for individual providers to use electronic signature software that meets specific requirements.

The new rule requires that electronic records be the original record and to conform to all existing Federal and State laws and rules regarding recordkeeping. In the event the original record is altered, the proposed rules require that the electronic record shall show the original and retain all altered versions, including the date and author of each version so that all changes are traceable.

Minimum required features of the electronic signature method used by the providers are listed in the proposal. These features include encryption, password protection for signature and subsequent access of the document, prohibition of group or shared passwords, verification of user signature, and transportation of data in electronically protected format when being sent to a third party.

Providers authorized to use an electronic signature are required to sign a statement acknowledging their responsibility and accountability related to the use of an electronic signature and confirming that they will be the only person with access to and will use their specific signature code.

The new rule requires that a provider's organizational policy must define appropriate disciplinary action for inappropriate actions. The organizational policy must address system action and monitoring, changes to records, and system support.

Also, documents signed electronically must be retained in conformance with the organization's legal health record and retention policy.

Finally, the rule requires that an organization provide a copy of their policies and procedures related to the use of electronic records and/or signatures to the Department or the Department's authorized representative upon request.

Notice of this adoption appears in the September 15, 2025 *New Jersey Register* at 57 N.J.R. 2265 (a). The new rules took effect September 15, 2025.

- **The Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services published a Notice of Readoption of the Medicaid Only rules, N.J.A.C. 10:71. This chapter regulates the Medicaid Only program for aged, blind, and disabled individuals. The Department readopted the chapter without change.**

Notice of this readoption appears in the September 15, 2025 *New Jersey Register* at 57 N.J.R. 2268 (a). It took effect August 14, 2025.

- **The Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance, published notice of approval of an administrative change, effective January 1, 2026, increasing the minimum hourly wage rate from \$15.49 to \$15.92.**

Notice of the increased minimum hourly wage appears in the November 3, 2025, *New Jersey Register* at 57 N.J.R. 2500 (a).

## 2. **Rule Proposals**

- **The Department of Labor and Workforce Development (Department) published notice of proposed new rules at N.J.A.C. 12:74, to implement N.J.S.A. 34:6B-23 (Act), which establishes notification requirements for employers regarding promotion, new job, and transfer opportunities.**

Specifically, subsection a of the Act requires that, prior to making a promotion decision, an employer must make reasonable efforts to announce, post, or otherwise make known the existence of the promotional opportunity to all employees in the department or departments of the employer to which the promotional opportunity is open. The Act also states that "any promotion for a current employee that is awarded based on years of experience or performance shall not be subject to the notification requirements established in this subsection," and that, "nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit an employer from making a promotion on an emergent basis due to an unforeseen event."

Subsection b of the Act requires that for each new job opportunity or transfer opportunity the employer advertises, the employer must, at a minimum, include within the notification, the hourly rate of pay or annual salary, as applicable, or a range of the hourly rate of pay or annual salary, as applicable; and a general description of benefits and other compensation programs for which the applicant would be eligible if selected for the new job or transfer opportunity.

Subsection c of the Act establishes the administrative penalties that the Department may assess against employers for a violation(s) of the Act.

Notice of this proposal, PRN 2025-124, appears in the September 15, 2025 *New Jersey Register* at 2220 (a). Written comments are due to the Department by November 14, 2025.

## 3. **Health Care Administration Board**

- None to report

#### 4. Legislation Enacted into Law

- None to report

#### 5. Legislative Activity

**Bill:** A3007

**Sponsors:** Hutchison (D4); McCann Stamato (D31); Speight (D29) +8

**Summary:** Increases maximum age for pediatric long-term care facility residents to 26.

**Related:** 2024:A3646; 2024:S4090; 2022:A5067; 2022:S3200

**History:** 01/09/2024—Introduced and referred to Assembly Health Committee.  
 06/03/2024—Reported out of committee, referred to Assembly Children, Families and Food Security Committee.  
 01/23/2025—Reported out of committee, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.  
 06/19/2025—Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.  
 06/30/2025—Passed in Assembly 79-0-0.  
**10/20/2025—Received in Senate and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.**

**Position:** Support

#### 6. Legislation Scheduled

**Bill:** A2980 AcaSca (2R)

**Sponsors:** McCoy (D14) +1

**Summary:** Requires health care professionals to report cases of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and motor neuron disease.

**Related:** 2024:S4030; 2022:A3269

**History:** 01/09/2024—Introduced and referred to Assembly Health Committee.  
 12/16/2024—Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Assembly.  
 01/30/2025—Passed in Assembly 72-1-1.  
 02/03/2025—Received in Senate and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.  
 06/09/2025—Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate.

**Scheduled:** 11/13/2025—Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

**Position:** Monitor

**Notes:** Amended at HCANJ request to apply only to health medical offices where a proper diagnosis of ALS can be made.

**Bill:** S4030 Sca (1R)  
**Sponsors:** Gopal (D11); Singleton (D7) +5  
**Summary:** **Requires health care professionals to report cases of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and motor neuron disease.**  
**Related:** 2024:A2980; 2022:A3269  
**History:** 01/14/2025—Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.  
06/09/2025—Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate. Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.  
**Scheduled:** 11/13/2025—Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.  
**Position:** Monitor  
**Notes:** Amended at HCANJ request to apply only to health medical offices where a proper diagnosis of ALS can be made.

**Bill:** S3195 Sca (1R)  
**Sponsors:** Smith (D17); Mukherji (D32) +4  
**Summary:** **Prohibits food service businesses from providing single-use utensils and condiments to customers, except upon request, and requires certain food service businesses to provide reusable, washable utensils to customers eating on site.**  
**Related:** 2024:A5157; 2022:A5331  
**History:** 05/06/2024—Introduced and referred to Senate Environment and Energy Committee.  
10/10/2024—Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate. Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.  
**Scheduled:** 11/13/2025—Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.  
**Position:** Monitor  
**Notes:** Amended at HCANJ request to permit use of plastic utensils during time of infectious outbreaks or outdoor recreational activities and family picnics.

## 7. Legislation Introduced

**Bill:** S4715  
**Sponsors:** Gopal (D11)  
**Summary:** **Revises definition of health care professional in aggravated assault statute to match definition under "Health Care Heroes Violence Prevention Act."**  
**Related:** 2024:A5914  
**History:** 10/20/2025—Introduced and referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.  
**Position:** Monitor

**Bill:** S4726  
**Sponsors:** Vitale (D19); Zwicker (D16)  
**Summary:** **Requires health benefits coverage for certain immunizations recommended by DOH.**  
**History:** 10/20/2025—Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee. Transferred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.  
**Position:** Review  
**Notes:** Will this enable cost shift to health plans for DOH recommended/required vaccines?

**Bill:** S4757  
**Sponsors:** Amato (R9)  
**Summary:** Eliminates tiered fee structure for fees and taxes imposed on property transfers valued over \$1 million.  
**History:** 10/27/2025—Introduced and referred to Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee.  
**Position:** Review  
**Notes:** Support? Probably going nowhere.

**Bill:** S4782  
**Sponsors:** McKnight (D31); Timberlake (D34)  
**Summary:** Requires advance written notice before discontinuance of State aid or services.  
**History:** 10/27/2025—Introduced and referred to Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee.

**Position:** Review  
**Bill:** S4829  
**Sponsors:** Singleton (D7)  
**Summary:** Establishes child care contribution tax credit to employers subject to CBT or GIT for certain child care expenses for children of employees.  
**History:** 11/06/2025—Introduced and referred to Senate Economic Growth Committee.  
**Position:** Review  
**Notes:** Support?

**Bill:** S4852  
**Sponsors:** Wimberly (D35)  
**Summary:** Prohibits certain employment actions against employees affected by a declared state of emergency.  
**Related:** 2024:A3307; 2022:A2419; 2020:A2677; 2018:A1129; 2016:A1867; 2016:S1562; 2014:A3958; 2014:S1717  
**History:** 11/06/2025—Proposed for introduction.  
**Position:** Review  
**Notes:** Make sure this includes 216th Session amendment made to Senate bill to exclude employees of licensed health care facilities.