

**HCANJ BUSINESS MEETING
LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE
March 11, 2026**

1. Rule Adoptions

- None to report

2. Rule Proposals

- None to report

3. Health Care Administration Board

- None to report

4. Legislation Enacted into Law

- None to report

5. Legislation on Governor's Desk

- None to report

6. Legislative Activity

Bill: A1352 Aca (1R)

Sponsors: Miller (D4); Murphy (D7)

Summary: **"Dementia Dignity and Advance Care Planning Act."**

Related: 2024:A6136

History: 01/13/2026—Introduced and referred to Assembly Health Committee.

03/09/2026—Reported out of committee with committee amendments, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: Monitor

Notes: Permits individuals to execute a “Dementia-Specific Advance Directive” (DSAD) specifying health care preferences to apply in the event the individual later enters advanced stages of dementia. The DSAD would specify the individual’s wishes regarding: feeding preferences, including comfort feeding only; hospitalization, resuscitation, artificial nutrition and hydration, intravenous fluids, antibiotics, and other life-prolonging measures; and conditions that will trigger comfort-only care.

The bill requires the Department of Health to develop training programs for health care professionals and long-term care staff on dementia-specific advance care planning, execution and recognition of DSADs.

The bill requires every licensed hospital, nursing home, assisted living facility, hospice, and health care professional to: (1) honor a valid DSAD; (2) offer patients and families the option of comfort feeding only orders consistent with a DSAD; (3) be immune from civil and criminal liability and from discipline by the department or professional licensing boards if acting in good faith reliance on a DSAD; and (4) not be compelled to perform a treatment decision contrary to one’s conscience, provided that the timely transfer of care will be arranged to respect patient’s wishes.

Bill: A1663 Aca (1R)

Sponsors: Drulis (D16); Murphy (D7)

Summary: **Requires DOH to study cost of establishing long-term health care benefit for certain individuals.**

Related: 2024:A5329

History: 01/13/2026—Introduced and referred to Assembly Health Committee.

03/09/2026—Reported out of committee with committee amendments, referred to Assembly Health Infrastructure Committee.

Position: Support (Conceptually)

Notes: DHS and DOBI may be more appropriate agencies to do this. Requires the Commissioner of Health to study modeling of public and private options for leveraging private resources to help individuals prepare for long-term health care services and support needs. The public long-term health care benefit for workers would be funded through a payroll deduction, and the public-private option would be a reinsurance or risk-sharing model.

Bill: A2207

Sponsors: Speight (D29) +4

Summary: **The "Certified Medication Aide in Nursing Homes Staffing Support Act;" authorizes certified medication aides to administer medications to nursing home residents.**

Related: 2026:S2858; 2024:A4089; 2024:S3796

History: 01/13/2026—Introduced; referred to Assembly Aging & Human Services Comm.
02/19/2026—Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.

Position: Support

Bill: A4070 Aa (1R)

Sponsors: Quijano (D20); Park (D37); Greenwald (D6) +8

Summary: **Establishes "Privacy Protection Act"; concerns collection and sharing of certain personal information.**

Related: 2026:S3522; 2026:S3610; 2024:A6309; 2024:S5037

History: 02/05/2026—Introduced; referred to Assembly Public Safety & Preparedness Comm.
02/12/2026—Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Assembly.
02/24/2026—Amended on Assembly floor, 2nd reading in Assembly (Quijano).

Position: Monitor

Notes: This bill prohibits government entities and health care facilities from requesting or collecting information relating to a person's immigration status, place of birth, social security number, and individual taxpayer identification number unless it is strictly necessary to assess eligibility for, or to administer, a requested public service, benefit, or program. In addition, it would prohibit a health care facility from retaining this information past the amount of time necessary to assess eligibility for, or to administer, a requested benefit, or program, or as otherwise required by law.

HCANJ promoted amendments that were approved last session to make an exception to the prohibition on the collection and retention of information for health care facilities when the information is necessary for safe and appropriate delivery of health care services, and as required by applicable law, including the "Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996" or HIPAA.

Bill: A4275

Sponsors: Hutchison (D4); Miller (D4)

Summary: **Establishes online Statewide tracking system for certain permits, licenses, certifications, and form applications.**

Related: 2026:S3613

History: 02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee.
03/09/2026—Reported out of committee, referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Committee.

Position: Support

Bill: S1381 Sca (1R)
Sponsors: Lagana (D38); Bucco (R25) +1
Summary: Requires DOLWD to identify and recruit unemployed individuals for employment in healthcare facilities, home care services, and hospice services; makes appropriation.
Related: 2026:A3590; 2024:A4809; 2024:S1472; 2022:A4617; 2022:S3121
History: 01/13/2026—Introduced and referred to Senate Labor Committee.
03/02/2026—Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate. Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.
Position: Support

Bill: S3522 ScaSa (2R)
Sponsors: Ruiz (D29); Zwicker (D16); McKeon (D27) +6
Summary: Establishes "Privacy Protection Act"; concerns collection and sharing of certain personal information.
Related: 2026:A4070; 2026:S3610; 2024:A6309; 2024:S5037
History: **02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Senate Judiciary Committee. Reported out of committee with committee amendments, 2nd reading in Senate.**
 02/24/2026—Amended on Senate floor, 2nd reading in Senate 23-15 (Ruiz).
Position: Monitor
Notes: This bill prohibits government entities and health care facilities from requesting or collecting information relating to a person’s immigration status, place of birth, social security number, and individual taxpayer identification number unless it is strictly necessary to assess eligibility for, or to administer, a requested public service, benefit, or program. In addition, it would prohibit a health care facility from retaining this information past the amount of time necessary to assess eligibility for, or to administer, a requested benefit, or program, or as otherwise required by law.

HCANJ promoted amendments that were approved last session to make an exception to the prohibition on the collection and retention of information for health care facilities when the information is necessary for safe and appropriate delivery of health care services, and as required by applicable law, including the “Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996” or HIPAA.

Bill: S3593
Sponsors: Beach (D6)
Summary: "New Jersey Works Act"; permits businesses to apply for tax credits for establishing approved pre-employment and work readiness training programs in partnership with schools, nonprofit organizations, or educational institutions.
Related: 2026:A2494; 2024:A2369; 2024:S2306; 2022:A583; 2022:S1485; 2020:A1534; 2020:S1573; 2018:A5421; 2018:S3952
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Senate Labor Committee.
03/02/2026—Reported out of committee, 2nd reading in Senate. Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.
Position: Support

7. Legislation Scheduled

Bill: S2980
Sponsors: Vitale (D19); McKnight (D31) +8
Summary: Revises reporting requirements for nursing homes concerning financial disclosures and ownership structure.
Related: 2024:A1872; 2024:S1948; 2022:A4484; 2022:S2769
History: 01/13/2026—Introduced and referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.
Scheduled: 03/16/2026—Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.
Position: Oppose

8. Legislation Introduced

Bill: A4091
Sponsors: Quijano (D20)
Summary: Concerns discrimination based on membership in a labor organization.
Related: 2024:A4172; 2024:S2640
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Assembly Labor Committee.
Position: Monitor
Notes: Adds membership in a labor organization to protected-class of persons.

Bill: A4143
Sponsors: Macurdy (D21)
Summary: "Long-Term Budget Outlook Act"; requires State Treasurer to prepare and submit annual multi-year fiscal outlook analysis report.
Related: 2026:S3618
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced; referred to Assembly State & Local Government Com.
Position: Monitor

Bill: A4175
Sponsors: Murphy (D7)
Summary: Requires residential psychiatric and long-term care facilities to provide certain financial information to facility residents and other individuals.
Related: 2024:A3644; 2024:S2319; 2022:A4317; 2022:S1306; 2020:A4616; 2020:S2880
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced; referred to Assembly Aging & Human Services Com.
Position: Seek Amendments
Notes: Original Assembly bill was amended to require that a facility would have to provide information ONLY to a guardian and removed requirement to also include a next of kin. However, next of kin requirement was put back into bill when reintroduced.

Bill: A4187
Sponsors: Murphy (D7)
Summary: Requires licensed providers of long-term skilled nursing care to establish permanent morgue for use in non-emergent periods and supplemental morgue space for use in public emergencies.
Related: 2024:A3626; 2022:A2570; 2022:S462; 2020:A4162; 2020:S2483
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced; referred to Assembly Health Infrastructure Comm.
Position: Oppose

- Bill:** A4208
Sponsors: Murphy (D7)
Summary: Provides right of action for individuals alleging denial of professional credential by State is result of policy or process causing disparate impact on basis of race or ethnicity.
Related: 2024:A3674; 2022:A4310; 2020:A4876
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced; referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Comm.
Position: Seek Amendments
Notes: Have religion added to bill?
- Bill:** A4240
Sponsors: Speight (D29)
Summary: Requires DOH to inspect reports of mold infestation in health care facilities.
Related: 2024:A5069; 2024:S4020
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Assembly Health Committee.
Position: Oppose
- Bill:** A4270
Sponsors: Speight (D29)
Summary: Requires Medicaid and health insurance network contracts to provide participating health care providers with certain notifications.
Related: 2024:A4333; 2024:S3733
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.
Position: Support
Notes: Requires a contract between a health care provider and a carrier that offers a managed care plan or the State Medicaid program or FamilyCare Health Coverage Program to require the carrier or program to provide a participating health care provider with notice at least six months in advance of any change in the policy that could result in the denial of coverage for services provided by the provider to a covered person.
- Bill:** A4308
Sponsors: Speight (D29)
Summary: Requires DHS to increase home and community-based services under Medicaid.
Related: 2024:A4585
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced; referred to Assembly Aging & Human Services.
Position: Oppose
Notes: Under the bill, the Commissioner of Human Services is required to, by 2027, aim to place 80 percent Medicaid participants, who are eligible to receive nursing home care, in home and community-based services, with 60 percent of the Medicaid funding for long-term services and supports allocated to home and community-based services and, by 2029, aim to allocate 70 percent of the Medicaid funding for long-term services and supports to home and community-based services. The bill also requires measures to reduce institutional bias in State policy, including Medicaid eligibility changes, more timely authorizations for home and community-based services, and Medicaid coverage changes designed to promote home and community-based services. It also requires DHS to manage Medicaid payment methods for home and community-based services in a manner that ensures a living wage for caregivers, and periodically review the adequacy of rates in a transparent, verifiable manner, with predictable adjustments in wages to account for inflation.

Bill: A4309
Sponsors: Speight (D29)
Summary: Revises responsibilities and duties of Nursing Home Administrator's Licensing Board.
Related: 2026:S2255; 2024:A4088; 2024:S3193
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced; referred to Assembly Health Infrastructure Committee.
Position: Support
Notes: HCANJ requested legislation -- but working on bill that goes further to include AITs.

Bill: A4310
Sponsors: Speight (D29)
Summary: Clarifies staff training requirements at long-term care facilities regarding care of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, queer, and intersex seniors and seniors living with HIV.
Related: 2026:S2691; 2024:A4093; 2024:S3055
History: 02/19/2026—
Position: Support
Notes: HCANJ requested legislation

Bill: A4334
Sponsors: Speight (D29)
Summary: Revises infection control regulation in long-term care facilities.
Related: 2024:A4149; 2024:S3200
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Assembly Aging and Human Services Committee.
Position: Support
Notes: HCANJ requested legislation.

Bill: A4337
Sponsors: Speight (D29)
Summary: Requires each nursing home to employ patient advocate.
Related: 2024:A3572; 2022:A1514; 2022:S1040; 2020:A4406; 2020:S2795
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Assembly Aging and Human Services Committee.
Position: Oppose
Notes: They already have 2 of these: a social worker and Office of the Ombudsman for the Institutionalized elderly (OOIE). A patient advocate needs to be a neutral party. A nursing home hiring a patient advocate is like the fox watching the hen house. If the advocate is hired by the NF and the advocate reports complaints on behalf of residents, how long can we expect the advocate to keep their job?

Bill: A4355
Sponsors: Peterpaul (D11)
Summary: Requires Division of Aging Services to establish one application form for programs providing services to certain adults.
History: 02/19/2026— Introduced; referred to Assembly Aging & Human Services.
Position: Monitor

- Bill:** A4447
Sponsors: Simmons (D3)
Summary: Establishes spending freeze for Fiscal Year 2027; requires excess revenues collected in FY2027 to be deposited in Debt Defeasance and Prevention Fund.
Related: 2024:A5331
History: 02/24/2026—Introduced and referred to Assembly Oversight, Reform and Federal Relations Committee.
Position: Oppose
- Bill:** A4457
Sponsors: Dunn (R25)
Summary: Establishes timelines for application review process for certain credentials issued by New Jersey Board of Nursing.
Related: 2026:S3514; 2024:S3594
History: 02/24/2026— Introduced; referred to Assembly Aging & Human Services.
Position: Support
Notes: Upon receipt of an application for initial licensure as a practical nurse or a registered professional nurse or for initial certification as an advanced practice nurse, the board is to (1) issue a confirmation to the applicant that the application was received; (2) at 10 days after receipt, send an update to the applicant on the status of the review of the application; and (3) at 30 days after receipt, issue a final determination to the applicant of the application.
- Bill:** S3613
Sponsors: Moriarty (D4)
Summary: Establishes online Statewide tracking system for certain permits, licenses, certifications, and form applications.
Related: 2026:A4275
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee.
Position: Support
Notes: Confirm Position. Would this apply to professional licenses and certifications? Medicaid applications?
- Bill:** S3618
Sponsors: Sarlo (D36)
Summary: "Long-Term Budget Outlook Act"; requires State Treasurer to prepare and submit annual multi-year fiscal outlook analysis report.
Related: 2026:A4143
History: 02/19/2026—Introduced and referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.
Position: Monitor
- Bill:** S3771
Sponsors: McKnight (D31)
Summary: Concerns registration and operation of temporary nurse staffing agencies.
Related: 2024:S3166
History: 03/05/2026—Introduced and referred to Senate Commerce Committee.
Position: Support
Notes: HCANJ requested legislation.