

SENATE, No. 2244

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 8, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Cruz-Perez

SYNOPSIS

Requires prescription opioid medications include warning sticker advising patients of risk of addiction and overdose.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/14/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning prescription medications and amending
2 P.L.1970, c.226.

3

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

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7 1. Section 17 of P.L.1970, c.226 (C.24:21-17) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 17. Form of label to be used by pharmacists; altering or
10 removing label. Whenever a pharmacist sells or dispenses any
11 controlled dangerous substance on a prescription issued by a
12 practitioner, **[he]** the pharmacist shall affix to the container in
13 which such drug is sold or dispensed, a label showing **[his]** the
14 pharmacist's own name, address, and registry number, or the name,
15 address, and registry number of the pharmacist or pharmacy owner
16 for whom **[he]** the pharmacist is lawfully acting; the name of the
17 patient or, if the patient is an animal, the name of the owner of the
18 animal and the species of the animal; the name of the practitioner
19 by whom the prescription was issued; the brand name or generic
20 name of the drug dispensed unless the prescriber states otherwise on
21 the prescription, such directions as may be stated on the
22 prescription and such directions as may be required by rules or
23 regulations promulgated by the director. In addition, whenever a
24 pharmacist dispenses an opioid medication on a prescription issued
25 by a practitioner, the pharmacist shall affix to the container in
26 which such opioid medication is sold or dispensed a warning sticker
27 describing the risks associated with opioid medications. The
28 director, in consultation with the Department of Health, shall
29 specify by rule or regulation the location on the medication
30 container where the warning sticker shall be affixed and the specific
31 language to be included on the warning sticker, which, at a
32 minimum, shall indicate that the medication in the container is an
33 opioid and that opioid medications carry a risk of addiction and
34 overdose. Unless otherwise provided by rules or regulations
35 promulgated by the director, the sticker shall be red in color with
36 text printed in a white font large enough to be easily and clearly
37 readable.

38 No person shall alter, deface, or remove any label or sticker so
39 affixed as long as any of the original contents remain.

40 (cf: P.L.2007, c.244, s.15)

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42 2. This act shall take effect the first day of the fourth month
43 next following the date of enactment.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

STATEMENT

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This bill requires that the container for any prescription opioid medication dispensed in the State is to include a warning sticker describing the risks of opioid medications. The Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Health, will specify by rule or regulation the location on the medication container where the warning sticker is to be affixed and the specific language to be included on the warning sticker, which, at a minimum, is to indicate that the medication is an opioid and that opioid medications carry a risk of addiction and overdose. Unless otherwise provided by rules or regulations promulgated by the director, the sticker is to be red in color with text printed in a white font large enough to be easily and clearly readable.