

# ASSEMBLY, No. 3304

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2016

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE**  
**District 37 (Bergen)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes three-year Medicaid home visitation demonstration project.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



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1 AN ACT establishing a home visitation pilot program in Medicaid  
2 and supplementing Title 30 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. a. The Department of Human Services, subject to federal  
8 approval and the availability of federal financial participation under  
9 Title XIX of the Social Security Act, shall establish a three-year  
10 Medicaid home visitation demonstration project. The demonstration  
11 project shall be designed to provide ongoing health and parenting  
12 information, parent and family support, and links to essential health  
13 and social services during pregnancy, infancy, and early childhood.  
14 The demonstration project shall be developed in consultation with  
15 the Department of Children and Families and the Department of  
16 Health.

17 b. The project shall be modeled on home visitation programs  
18 currently administered by the Department of Children and Families,  
19 the Department of Health, and the Division of Family Development  
20 in the Department of Human Services.

21 c. The project shall be implemented in stages, prioritizing  
22 expansion of services in counties with the highest number of births  
23 to eligible families and where current home visitation programs  
24 provide services to less than 10 percent of the eligible population.

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26 2. The Commissioner of Human Services shall apply for such  
27 State plan amendments or waivers as may be necessary to implement  
28 the provisions of this act and to secure federal financial participation  
29 for State Medicaid expenditures under the federal Medicaid program.

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31 3. The Commissioner of Human Services, in accordance with  
32 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1  
33 et seq.), shall adopt such rules and regulations as the commissioner  
34 deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

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36 4. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh  
37 month next following the date of enactment and shall expire three  
38 years after the date that the Department of Human Services  
39 commences implementation of the demonstration project, but the  
40 commissioner may take such anticipatory administrative action in  
41 advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this  
42 act.

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STATEMENT

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47 This bill establishes a three-year Medicaid home visitation  
48 demonstration project. The project would be designed to provide

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1 ongoing health and parenting information, parent and family  
2 support, and links to essential health and social services during  
3 pregnancy, infancy, and early childhood. The bill requires that the  
4 demonstration project be developed in consultation with the  
5 Department of Children and Families and the Department of Health,  
6 and that it be modeled on home visitation programs currently  
7 administered by the three different Executive departments currently  
8 operating such programs.

9 The project would be rolled out in stages, prioritizing expansion  
10 of services in counties with the highest number of births to eligible  
11 families and where current home visitation programs provide  
12 services to less than 10 percent of the eligible population. It is the  
13 sponsor's understanding that this would result in initial expansions  
14 in Hudson and Union counties (100 families), Essex and Morris  
15 counties (100 families), Middlesex county (100 families), Bergen  
16 county (100 families), Ocean county (75 families), and Monmouth  
17 county (75 families).

18 The State currently provides home visiting services to over 5,000  
19 families Statewide through several different programs. Home  
20 visitation programs typically provide frequent and regular visits to  
21 new families from pregnancy until the child is aged two or three,  
22 but vary in certain details according to the particular model. Home  
23 visitation programs encourage positive behaviors and healthy  
24 nutrition to prevent poor pregnancy outcomes; identify health or  
25 social concerns that may adversely affect a child's home  
26 environment; and assist parents in developing skills to promote  
27 early learning, language development, and early literacy. Such  
28 programs have been demonstrated through academic research to  
29 decrease pre-term and low-weight births, increase maternal  
30 employment, increase father involvement, decrease child abuse and  
31 neglect, decrease welfare costs, improve school readiness, and  
32 several other positive outcomes.