Requires certain public assistance programs to include menstrual hygiene products among covered benefits available to eligible recipients.

As introduced.
AN ACT concerning menstrual hygiene products and supplementing
Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. a. The State Medicaid program established pursuant to
P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.), the New Jersey Supplemental
Nutrition Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal
et seq.), and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for
Women, Infants, and Children, established pursuant to the federal
seq.) shall include menstrual hygiene products among the covered
benefits available for all eligible recipients.

b. The Commissioner of Human Services shall consult and
coordinate with the Commissioner of Health on the establishment of
an educational and public awareness campaign to inform the public
about the provisions of this act and to ensure that eligible recipients
of the State Medicaid program, the New Jersey Supplemental
Nutrition Assistance Program, the Special Supplemental Nutrition
Program for Women, Infants, and Children, the Work First New
Jersey program, and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
program are aware of the new benefits made available to them
pursuant to subsection a. of this section, and shall post the
information provided through the campaign on each of their
departments’ Internet sites.

c. The Commissioner of Human Services shall apply for such
State plan amendments or waivers as may be necessary to
implement the provisions of this section and to secure federal
financial participation for expenditures under any of the applicable
programs listed in subsection a. of this section.

d. As used in this section, “menstrual hygiene products” means
tampons, panty liners, menstrual cups, sanitary napkins, and other
similar products designed for a person’s hygiene in connection with
the human menstrual cycle.

2. This act shall take effect upon any federal approval and the
acceptance of any such approval by the Department of Health and
the Department of Human Services but the departments may take
such anticipatory action in advance as shall be necessary for the
implementation this act.

STATEMENT

This bill requires the State Medicaid program established
pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.), the New Jersey

As defined in the bill, “menstrual hygiene products” means tampons, panty liners, menstrual cups, sanitary napkins, and other similar products designed for a person’s hygiene in connection with the human menstrual cycle.

The bill requires the Commissioner of Human Services to consult and coordinate with the Commissioner of Health on the establishment of an educational and public awareness campaign to inform the public about the provisions of the bill and to ensure that eligible recipients of the public assistance programs covered under the bill are aware of the new benefits made available to them, and to post the information provided through the campaign on each of the departments’ Internet sites.

The bill stipulates that the Commissioner of Human Services is to apply for State plan amendments or waivers as may be necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and to secure federal financial participation for expenditures under any of the applicable programs.