SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2668

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 6, 2022

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2668 with committee amendments.

As amended by the committee, this bill stipulates that the terms of a contract entered into on or after the effective date of the bill between the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services in the Department of Human Services (DHS) or the Division of Developmental Disabilities in the DHS and a program providing mental health services, substance use disorder treatment services, or services to persons with developmental disabilities, include an annual increase in the cost of living adjustment received by the organization.

The cost of living adjustment is to be based on the Consumer Price Index for the previous 12-month period beginning October 1 and ending September 30, as published by the United States Department of Labor. The DHS will be required to announce the rate of the increase on October 1 of each year.

As amended, the bill provides that a program providing mental health services, substance use disorder treatment services, or services to persons with developmental disabilities includes State programs partially funded or fully funded by Medicaid and licensed or approved by the Commissioner of Human Services or other appropriate State licensing agencies.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments make certain technical changes to:

1) Clarify that the bill applies to programs contracting with either the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services or the Division of Developmental Disabilities, rather than programs contracting with both divisions;

2) Update references to "substance use treatment services" to read "substance use disorder treatment services"; and

3) Update the title of the bill to address a citation issue.