



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, the United States and countries across the globe are facing the most significant health crisis in modern history due to COVID-19, which has also caused a global economic downturn, impacting people and their ability to access health insurance; and

WHEREAS, to slow the spread of COVID-19, individual and community health can be improved dramatically by covering your mouth and nose, wearing a mask, and practicing social distancing; and

WHEREAS, quality, affordable health insurance coverage ensures access to care and makes a material difference in the health and well-being of the people of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, access to health insurance is important because those without coverage are less likely to see a doctor when they become ill or for treatment of a chronic condition and forgo necessary care until their condition becomes intolerable; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act was enacted in 2010 to expand access to affordable, meaningful coverage to lower the number of uninsured people and improve overall population health and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act, which ensures critical consumer protections, and expands coverage to millions of Americans, is instrumental in dramatically reducing the number of uninsured people from 46.8 million in 2010 to 29.2 million in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey in November of 2020 established a state health insurance exchange under the Affordable Care Act in order to improve access to health coverage for New Jersey residents; and

WHEREAS, the state Marketplace, Get Covered New Jersey, operated by the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, provides access to quality, affordable, health coverage and care to New Jerseyans, which is especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic conditions; and

WHEREAS, the benefits to New Jersey residents of the state Marketplace include a longer open enrollment period of three months, compared to six weeks in recent years, additional enrollment assistance from 16 state Navigators, compared to one that operated in 2019 under the federal government, and more financial help provided through state subsidies in addition to federal tax credits for those earning an income of up to 400% of the federal poverty level; and

WHEREAS, leaders from across America have joined to launch a national movement to help address the COVID-19 pandemic by helping people protect themselves and making sure everyone who can, enrolls in health care coverage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

DECEMBER 10, 2020
AS
GET COVERED DAY

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this seventh day of December in the year two thousand twenty, the two hundred forty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR