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## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

**POLITICO**

### NEW JERSEY WILL BECOME SECOND STATE TO ENACT INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE MANDATE

**Sacramento, CA** – A May 30 [Politico](#) article by Katie Jennings reports that New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy (D) signed into law a bill that will require all New Jerseyans to have health insurance. The new law reinstates the individual mandate beginning Jan. 1, 2019. The federal government repealed the mandate late last year and it officially expires in 2019.

Meanwhile, Vermont Gov. Phil Scott, a Republican, on May 28 also signed into law a bill that would establish an individual mandate in Vermont. The mandate in Vermont will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2020.

California's health plans are urging California lawmakers to also take action and adopt a statewide requirement to have health insurance coverage. This will help to protect California's individuals and families from coverage disruptions and higher premiums, while stabilizing the health care marketplace.

Here are excerpts from the [Politico article](#) highlighting the action taken by the governors of New Jersey and Vermont:

"...Gov. Phil Murphy on Wednesday signed into law a bill that will require all New Jersey residents to have health coverage or pay a penalty, making the state the second in the country to enact an individual health insurance mandate.

"...Democratic lawmakers drafted the bill in response to Congress' decision to repeal the federal mandate established under the Affordable Care Act. The repeal, the New Jersey lawmakers feared, would drive healthier people out of the state's Obamacare market and cause premiums to spike.

"...The individual market would descend into a death spiral if not for this legislation," said state Sen. Joe Vitale (D-Middlesex), the prime sponsor. "This helps to keep people insured and keeps that market healthier.

“...Vermont Gov. Phil Scott, a Republican, signed a bill on May 28 that would establish an individual mandate, but the details, including the financial penalty and enforcement mechanisms, will be determined during the 2019 legislative session. The Vermont mandate won’t go into effect until Jan. 1, 2020.

*CAHP is a statewide association representing 48 full-service health plans. Through legislative advocacy, education and collaboration with other member organizations, CAHP works to sustain a strong environment in which our member plans can provide access to products that offer choice and flexibility to the more than 28 million members they serve. For more information, please visit <http://www.calhealthplans.org/> or call (916) 552-2910.*

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