In order to keep babies as healthy as possible, it is important not to schedule delivery before thirty-nine weeks if there is no medical concern for the pregnant person or baby. Those final weeks of pregnancy are important for babies’ development.

In order to stop the practice of Early Elective Deliveries, New Jersey law now says that the State Health Benefits Program, School Employees Health Benefits Program, and New Jersey Medicaid will not pay medical providers and hospitals to deliver babies before thirty-nine weeks if there is no medical reason for the delivery. This does not include spontaneous early births or births that were scheduled for a medically-indicated reason.