



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 177**

January Session, 2023

Senate Bill No. 1160

*Senate, March 22, 2023*

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. ANWAR of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING PERINATAL MOOD AND ANXIETY DISORDERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Public Health, in  
2 consultation with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction  
3 Services, and organizations representing health care facilities and  
4 licensed health care professionals, shall develop a maternal mental  
5 health toolkit to provide information and resources regarding maternal  
6 mental health to licensed health care professionals and new parents in  
7 the state. Such toolkit shall include, but need not be limited to, (1)  
8 information about perinatal mood and anxiety disorders, including, but  
9 not limited to, the symptoms of such disorders, potential impact of such  
10 disorders on families and treatment options for a person with a perinatal  
11 mood or anxiety disorder; and (2) a list of licensed health care  
12 professionals, peer support networks and nonprofit organizations in the  
13 state that treat perinatal mood and anxiety disorders or provide support  
14 for persons with a perinatal mood or anxiety disorder and the family

15 members of such persons. Not later than October 1, 2023, the  
16 Department of Public Health shall make such toolkit available on its  
17 Internet web site.

18 Sec. 2. Section 19a-490u of the general statutes is repealed and the  
19 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

20 (a) Each hospital, as defined in section 19a-490, shall include training  
21 in the symptoms of dementia as part of such hospital's regularly  
22 provided training to staff members who provide direct care to patients.

23 (b) On and after October 1, 2021, each hospital shall include training  
24 in implicit bias as part of such hospital's regularly provided training to  
25 staff members who provide direct care to women who are pregnant or  
26 in the postpartum period. As used in this subsection, "implicit bias"  
27 means an attitude or internalized stereotype that affects a person's  
28 perceptions, actions and decisions in an unconscious manner and often  
29 contributes to unequal treatment of a person based on such person's  
30 race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability or  
31 other characteristic.

32 (c) On and after October 1, 2023, each hospital shall include training  
33 in perinatal mood and anxiety disorders as part of such hospital's  
34 regularly provided training to staff members who provide direct care to  
35 women who are pregnant or in the postpartum period.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2023</i>	19a-490u

**PH**            *Joint Favorable*

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*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill, which requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to develop a maternal mental health toolkit and publish it on its website, has no fiscal impact.

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 1160*****AN ACT CONCERNING PERINATAL MOOD AND ANXIETY DISORDERS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to develop a toolkit to provide information and resources on maternal mental health to licensed health care professionals and new parents in the state. In doing so, DPH must consult with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and organizations representing health care facilities and licensed health care professionals.

The toolkit must at least include (1) information about perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (see BACKGROUND), including their symptoms, potential impact on families, and treatment options; and (2) a list of licensed health care professionals, peer support networks, and nonprofit organizations in the state that treat these disorders or provide related support for patients and their family members. By October 1, 2023, DPH must make the toolkit available on its website.

Starting October 1, 2023, the bill also requires hospitals to include training in perinatal mood and anxiety disorders as part of their regular training to staff members who provide direct care to women who are pregnant or in the postpartum period.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except October 1, 2023, for the hospital training provision.

**BACKGROUND*****Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders***

Generally, perinatal mood and anxiety disorders refer to a range of

symptoms that may occur during pregnancy and the post-partum period, such as depression and anxiety, or in rare cases, post-partum psychosis.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 38 Nay 0 (03/10/2023)