

Public Health Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1160

Title: AN ACT CONCERNING PERINATAL MOOD AND ANXIETY DISORDERS.

Vote Date: 3/10/2023

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/6/2023

File No.: 177

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

The Public Health Committee.

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill promotes awareness of maternal mental health and perinatal anxiety and mood disorders. The bill requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to develop a toolkit providing information on maternal mental health for licensed healthcare professionals. Starting October 1, 2023, the bill requires hospitals to provide training in perinatal mood and anxiety disorders to staff who provide direct care to pregnant women and those in the post-partum period.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG), CT Chapter:

ACOG fully supports this bill because it continues their quest to increase provider awareness of maternal mental health as well as mood and anxiety disorders associated with pregnancy. ACOG mentioned the Yale program, ACCESS Mental Health for Moms, which is also engaged in raising provider awareness regarding these issues.

Lisa Maloney, President, CT Pregnancy Care Coalition:

The CT Pregnancy Care Coalition supports this bill as it will provide information and educational materials to mothers who are unaware of the emotional changes associated with pregnancy. Many new mothers are not familiar with the symptoms of maternal mood and anxiety disorders.

Others in Support of this bill:

Amy Rodriguez, Post-Partum International, CT Chapter.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION

There was no testimony in opposition to this bill.

Reported by: David Rackliffe

Date: 3/24/2023