



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 108

February Session, 2024

Substitute House Bill No. 5322

House of Representatives, March 25, 2024

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY of the 133rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS REGARDING INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE TOWARD PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM PATIENTS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (g) of section 19a-59i of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (g) [Not later than January 1, 2023, the] The maternal mortality review
5 committee shall develop educational materials regarding:

6 (1) The health and safety of pregnant and postpartum persons with
7 mental health disorders, including, but not limited to, perinatal mood
8 and anxiety disorders, for distribution by the Department of Public
9 Health to each birthing hospital in the state. As used in this subdivision,
10 "birthing hospital" means a health care facility, as defined in section 19a-
11 630, operated and maintained in whole or in part for the purpose of
12 caring for patients during the delivery of a child and for a postpartum

13 person and such person's newborn following birth;

14 (2) Evidence-based screening tools for screening patients for intimate
15 partner violence, peripartum mood disorders and substance use
16 disorder for distribution by the Department of Public Health to
17 obstetricians and other health care providers who practice obstetrics;
18 [and]

19 (3) Indicators of intimate partner violence for distribution by the
20 Department of Public Health to (A) hospitals for use by health care
21 providers in the emergency department and hospital social workers,
22 and (B) obstetricians and other health care providers who practice
23 obstetrics; and

24 (4) Not later than January 1, 2025, intimate partner violence toward
25 pregnant and postpartum persons for distribution by the Department of
26 Public Health (A) in print to each birthing hospital and birth center in
27 the state, and (B) electronically to obstetricians and other health care
28 providers who practice obstetrics for provision to pregnant and
29 postpartum patients.

30 Sec. 2. Section 19a-490ee of the general statutes is repealed and the
31 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

32 (a) As used in this section, (1) "birthing hospital" means a health care
33 facility, as defined in section 19a-630, operated and maintained in whole
34 or in part for the purpose of caring for a person during the delivery of a
35 child and for a postpartum person and such person's newborn following
36 birth; and (2) "birth center" has the same meaning as provided in section
37 19a-490.

38 (b) [On and after October 1, 2022, each] Each birthing hospital shall
39 provide to each patient who has undergone a caesarean section written
40 information regarding the importance of mobility following a caesarean
41 section and the risks associated with immobility following a caesarean
42 section.

43 (c) [Not later than January 1, 2023, each] Each birthing hospital shall

44 establish a patient portal through which a postpartum patient can
 45 virtually access, through an Internet web site or application, any
 46 educational materials and other information that the birthing hospital
 47 provided to the patient during the patient's stay at the birthing hospital
 48 and at the time of the patient's discharge from the birthing hospital.

49 (d) [On and after January 1, 2023, each] Each birthing hospital shall
 50 provide to each postpartum patient the educational materials regarding
 51 the health and safety of pregnant and postpartum persons with mental
 52 health disorders, including, but not limited to, perinatal mood and
 53 anxiety disorders, developed by the maternal mortality review
 54 committee pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 19a-
 55 59i, as amended by this act.

56 (e) On and after January 1, 2025, each birthing hospital and birth
 57 center shall provide to each pregnant and postpartum patient the
 58 educational materials regarding intimate partner violence toward
 59 pregnant and postpartum persons, developed by the maternal mortality
 60 review committee pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (g) of
 61 section 19a-59i, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	19a-59i(g)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	19a-490ee

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 25 \$	FY 26 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	60,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, among other provisions, requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) provide certain printed educational information to birthing hospitals and birth centers in the state not later than 1/1/25, and facilities and providers distribute these materials to their pregnant and postpartum patients, results in a one-time cost of approximately \$60,000 to the department for printing.

The Out Years

The cost to DPH is in FY 25 only.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5322

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS REGARDING INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE TOWARD PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM PATIENTS.

SUMMARY

By law, a Maternal Mortality Review Committee within the Department of Public Health (DPH) conducts multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths to identify associated factors and make recommendations to reduce these deaths.

This bill requires the committee, by January 1, 2025, to develop educational materials on intimate partner violence toward pregnant and postpartum people.

Under the bill, DPH must distribute the educational materials (1) in print to each birthing hospital and birth center in the state and (2) electronically to obstetricians and other health care providers who practice obstetrics. It correspondingly requires these facilities and providers to give the educational materials to their pregnant and postpartum patients.

Existing law already requires the committee to develop educational materials on indicators of intimate partner violence for DPH to distribute to (1) hospitals for emergency department health care providers and social workers to use and (2) obstetricians and other health care providers who practice obstetrics.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 37 Nay 0 (03/11/2024)