

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2018 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Health Policy

HB 41 — Pregnancy Support and Wellness Services

by Health and Human Services Committee; and Rep. Toledo and others (CS/SB 444 by Health Policy Committee; and Senators Bean, Steube, Baxley, and Mayfield)

The bill codifies a program to provide pregnancy support and wellness services, such as direct client services, program awareness activities, and communication activities, through a statewide alliance of community organizations. The bill directs the Department of Health to contract with the Florida Pregnancy Care Network, Inc., (network) and specifies contract deliverables for the program, including financial reports, staffing requirements, and timeframes for achieving obligations. At least 90 percent of the contract funds must be used for pregnancy support and wellness services.

The network is to subcontract only with providers that exclusively promote and support childbirth. The network must monitor services provided by subcontractors and impose sanctions as appropriate for noncompliance with the terms of the subcontract. Informational materials provided to a client must be current and accurate and must cite the reference source of any medical statements included in the materials. Services must be provided in a noncoercive manner and may not include any religious content.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2018.

Vote: Senate 21-12; House 73-29