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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/31/2021	.	
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The Committee on Health Policy (Gibson) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 110 - 190

and insert:

(h) "Perinatal professionals" means doulas, personnel from Healthy Start and home visiting programs, childbirth educators, community health workers, peer supporters, certified lactation consultants, nutritionists and dietitians, social workers, and other licensed and nonlicensed professionals who assist women through their prenatal or postpartum periods.



659422

11 (i) "Postpartum" means the 1-year period beginning on the
12 last day of a woman's pregnancy.

13 (j) "Severe maternal morbidity" means an unexpected outcome
14 caused by a woman's labor and delivery which results in
15 significant short-term or long-term consequences to the woman's
16 health.

17 (k) "Technology-enabled collaborative learning and capacity
18 building model" means a distance health care education model
19 that connects health care professionals, particularly
20 specialists, with other health care professionals through
21 simultaneous interactive videoconferencing for the purpose of
22 facilitating case-based learning, disseminating best practices,
23 and evaluating outcomes in the context of maternal health care.

24 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the pilot programs is to:

25 (a) Expand the use of technology-enabled collaborative
26 learning and capacity building models to improve maternal health
27 outcomes for the following populations and demographics:

28 1. Ethnic and minority populations.

29 2. Health professional shortage areas.

30 3. Areas with significant racial and ethnic disparities in
31 maternal health outcomes and high rates of adverse maternal
32 health outcomes, including, but not limited to, maternal
33 mortality and severe maternal morbidity.

34 4. Medically underserved populations.

35 5. Indigenous populations.

36 (b) Provide for the adoption and use of telehealth services
37 that allow for screening and treatment of common pregnancy-
38 related complications, including, but not limited to, anxiety,
39 depression, substance use disorder, hemorrhage, infection,



659422

40 amniotic fluid embolism, thrombotic pulmonary or other embolism,
41 hypertensive disorders relating to pregnancy, diabetes,
42 cerebrovascular accidents, cardiomyopathy, and other
43 cardiovascular conditions.

44 (3) TELEHEALTH SERVICES AND EDUCATION.—The pilot programs
45 shall adopt the use of telehealth or coordinate with prenatal
46 home visiting programs to provide all of the following services
47 and education to eligible pregnant women up to the last day of
48 their postpartum periods, as applicable:

49 (a) Referrals to Healthy Start's coordinated intake and
50 referral program to offer families prenatal home visiting
51 services.

52 (b) Services and education addressing social determinants
53 of health, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

54 1. Housing placement options.

55 2. Transportation services or information on how to access
56 such services.

57 3. Nutrition counseling.

58 4. Access to healthy foods.

59 5. Lactation support.

60 6. Lead abatement and other efforts to improve air and
61 water quality.

62 7. Child care options.

63 8. Car seat installation and training.

64 9. Wellness and stress management programs.

65 10. Coordination across safety net and social support
66 services and programs.

67 (c) Evidence-based health literacy and pregnancy,
68 childbirth, and parenting education for women in the prenatal



659422

69 and postpartum periods.

70 (d) For women during their pregnancies through the
71 postpartum periods, connection to support from doulas and other
72 perinatal health workers.

73 (e) Tools for prenatal women to conduct key components of
74 maternal wellness checks, including, but not limited to, all of
75 the following:

76 1. A device to measure body weight, such as a scale.

77 2. A device to measure blood pressure which has a verbal
78 reader to assist the pregnant woman in reading the device and to
79 ensure that the health care practitioner performing the wellness
80 check through telehealth is able to hear the reading.

81 3. A device to measure blood sugar levels with a verbal
82 reader to assist the pregnant woman in reading the device and to
83 ensure that the health care practitioner performing the wellness
84 check through telehealth is able to hear the reading.

85 4. Any other device that the health care practitioner
86 performing wellness checks through telehealth deems necessary.

87
88 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

89 And the title is amended as follows:

90 Delete line 12

91 and insert:

92 services, or coordinate with prenatal home visiting
93 programs to provide specified services, to eligible
94 pregnant women for a specified