

By Senator Sharief

35-01559-26

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to health care practitioner maternal
mental health continuing education requirements;
creating s. 456.63, F.S.; providing curriculum
requirements relating to maternal mental health for
the required continuing education hours for licensure
renewal; requiring a board, or the Department of
Health if there is no board, to periodically update
specified curriculum and accept the successful
completion of such curriculum as credit toward
continuing education requirements; providing an
effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 456.63, Florida Statutes, is created to
read:

456.63 Continuing education on maternal mental health.—

(1) Continuing education hours required for licensure
renewal for health care practitioners must include all of the
following:

(a) The best practices in screening for maternal mental
health disorders.

(b) The range of maternal mental health disorders.

(c) The range of evidence-based treatment options,
including the importance of allowing a mother to be involved in
developing a treatment plan.

(d) When an obstetrician or a primary care physician should
consult with a psychiatrist versus making a referral.

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(2) A board, or the department if there is no board, shall:

(a) Periodically update any curriculum developed pursuant to subsection (1) to account for new research.

(b) Accept the successful completion of the curriculum under subsection (1) as credit toward the continuing education requirements for renewal of a license by a health care practitioner who practices in the specialty of:

1. Pediatrics;

2. Obstetrics and gynecology;

3. Psychiatry; or

4. Clinical psychology.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.