



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Amendment

LCO No. 8777



Offered by:

SEN. MOORE, 22nd Dist.

REP. ABERCROMBIE, 83rd Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1078

File No. 603

Cal. No. 288

"AN ACT CONCERNING DOULA CERTIFICATION AND MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR DOULA SERVICES."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) For purposes of this section
4 and section 2 of this act, (1) "doula" means a person trained to provide
5 continuous physical, emotional and informational support to a client
6 during the antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum periods of a
7 pregnancy, (2) "antepartum" means the period of pregnancy before labor,
8 (3) "intrapartum" means the period of pregnancy during labor and
9 delivery, (4) "postpartum" means the period following childbirth, and
10 (5) "perinatal" means the antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum
11 periods of a pregnancy.

12 (b) On or before September 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Public
13 Health shall establish a working group concerning the core
14 competencies for doulas to be licensed or certified to practice. The

15 working group shall review and evaluate the following: (1) An
16 assessment of any public health and safety risks and benefits that may
17 be associated with doulas, and (2) the minimum requirements needed
18 for licensure or certification as a doula, including the education and
19 training necessary for licensure or certification.

20 (c) The working group shall include, but need not be limited to, the
21 following persons: (1) Three doulas who provide services throughout
22 the perinatal period, (2) three doulas who provide postpartum
23 services, (3) an obstetrician-gynecologist licensed pursuant to chapter
24 370 of the general statutes or a nurse-midwife licensed pursuant to
25 chapter 377 of the general statutes, (4) a community health worker or
26 advocate, (5) an organization that provides or represents women's
27 reproductive health services, (6) the executive director of the Office of
28 Health Strategy, or the executive director's designee, and (7) the
29 Commissioners of Public Health, Social Services and Mental Health
30 and Addiction Services, or each commissioner's designee. The
31 Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee, shall
32 act as the chairperson. The Commissioner of Public Health may
33 appoint additional members to the working group, including, but not
34 limited to, representatives from health care professions having a
35 proximate relationship to doulas if the commissioner or the
36 commissioner's designee determines that such expansion would be
37 beneficial to the working group. Members of such working group shall
38 serve without compensation.

39 (d) The working group, upon concluding its review and evaluation,
40 shall report its findings, in accordance with the provisions of section
41 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the
42 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
43 health on or before January 15, 2020. The working group shall
44 terminate on the date that it submits its written findings to the joint
45 standing committee.

46 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The executive director of the
47 Commission on Women, Children and Seniors shall convene a

48 working group to develop recommendations concerning establishing
49 adequate Medicaid reimbursement for doula services and ensuring
50 access to such services for Medicaid beneficiaries.

51 (b) The working group shall include, but need not be limited to, at
52 least one each of the following persons: (1) A doula who provides
53 services throughout the perinatal period, (2) a doula who provides
54 postpartum services, (3) an obstetrician-gynecologist licensed pursuant
55 to chapter 370 of the general statutes or a nurse-midwife licensed
56 pursuant to chapter 377 of the general statutes, (4) a Medicaid
57 recipient, (5) a professional with experience in workforce development,
58 (6) a community health worker or advocate, (7) the Commissioner of
59 Social Services, or the commissioner's designee, and (8) the
60 Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee.

61 (c) Appointments shall be made not later than sixty days after the
62 effective date of this section. Members of the working group shall
63 select the chairpersons from among the members.

64 (d) Not later than January 15, 2020, the working group shall report,
65 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
66 statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
67 having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the
68 budgets of state agencies, human services and public health on (1) the
69 most appropriate means of providing adequate Medicaid
70 reimbursement for doula services, (2) the estimated return on state
71 investment in Medicaid-funded doulas on averted costs associated
72 with pregnancy, birth and post-partum-related complications, (3) the
73 estimated number of doulas eligible to participate in Medicaid-funded
74 services, (4) workforce development recommendations to increase the
75 number, preparedness and diversity of doulas, (5) a timeline for a
76 Medicaid state plan amendment to provide Medicaid reimbursement
77 for doula services, and (6) recommendations to increase awareness
78 among Medicaid recipients of the benefits and availability of doula
79 services after reimbursement is established for such services. The
80 working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report

81 or December 1, 2019, whichever is later."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section