



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5322

LCO No. 2179



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*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 in the state, and (2)
27 electronically to obstetricians and other health care providers who
28 practice obstetrics for provision to pregnant and postpartum patients.

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 Section 19a-490ee of the general statutes is repealed and the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

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

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

41 (c) [Not later than January 1, 2023, each] Each birthing hospital shall
42 establish a patient portal through which a postpartum patient can
43 virtually access, through an Internet web site or application, any
44 educational materials and other information that the birthing hospital

45 provided to the patient during the patient's stay at the birthing hospital
46 and at the time of the patient's discharge from the birthing hospital.

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

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

Statement of Purpose:

To require the distribution of educational materials regarding intimate partner violence toward pregnant and postpartum patients by the Department of Public Health to birthing hospitals and providers of obstetrical care.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]