

1 AN ACT relating to postpartum depression care.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 211 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall, in cooperation with maternal*
6 *health and mental health professionals:*

7 *(a) Develop written information on postpartum depression and make it*
8 *available on its Web site for access by birthing centers, hospitals that*
9 *provide labor and delivery services, and the public; and*

10 *(b) Provide access to an evidence-based clinical assessment tool designed to*
11 *detect the symptoms of postpartum depression or related mental health*
12 *disorders on in its Web site for use by health care providers providing*
13 *postnatal care and health care providers providing pediatric infant care.*

14 *(2) All birthing centers and hospitals that provide labor and delivery services shall,*
15 *prior to discharge following pregnancy, provide pregnant women and, if possible,*
16 *fathers and other family members, with complete information about postpartum*
17 *depression, including its symptoms, methods of treatment, and available*
18 *resources.*

19 *(3) Health care providers providing postnatal care to women for up to six (6) months*
20 *following a pregnancy shall:*

21 *(a) Invite the woman to complete an assessment tool designed to detect the*
22 *symptoms of postpartum depression or related mental health disorders; and*

23 *(b) Review the completed assessment tool in accordance with the formal*
24 *opinions and recommendations of the American College of Obstetricians*
25 *and Gynecologists.*

26 *(4) Beginning with the infant's one-month checkup until the infant is six (6) months*
27 *old, health care providers providing pediatric care to an infant shall:*

- 1 (a) Invite the infant's birth mother to complete an assessment tool designed to
2 detect the symptoms of postpartum depression or related mental health
3 disorders;
- 4 (b) Review the completed assessment tool in accordance with the formal
5 opinions and recommendations of the American College of Obstetricians
6 and Gynecologists; and
- 7 (c) With the birth mother's consent, share the results of the postpartum
8 depression assessment with the birth mother's primary health care provider
9 or mental health care provider of her choice.