

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 *and infant health and mental health professional societies:*

7 *(a) Develop written information on perinatal mental health disorders and make*  
8 *it available on its website for access by birthing centers, hospitals that*  
9 *provide labor and delivery services, and the public; and*

10 *(b) Provide access on its website to one (1) or more evidence-based clinical*  
11 *assessment tools designed to detect the symptoms of perinatal mental health*  
12 *disorders for use by health care providers providing perinatal care and*  
13 *health care providers providing pediatric infant care.*

14 *(2) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall establish a collaborative panel*  
15 *composed of representatives of health care facilities that provide obstetrical and*  
16 *newborn care, maternal and infant health care providers, maternal mental health*  
17 *providers, representatives of university mental health training programs,*  
18 *maternal health advocates, women with experience living with perinatal mental*  
19 *health disorders, and other stakeholders for the purposes of:*

20 *(a) Improving the quality of prevention and treatment of perinatal mental*  
21 *health disorders;*

22 *(b) Promoting the implementation of evidence-based bundles of care to improve*  
23 *patient safety;*

24 *(c) Identifying unaddressed gaps in service related to perinatal mental health*  
25 *disorders that are linked to geographic, racial, and ethnic inequalities; lack*  
26 *of screenings; and insufficient access to treatments, professionals, or*  
27 *support groups; and*

1        (d) Exploring grant and other funding opportunities and making  
2                    recommendations for funding allocations to address the need for services  
3                    and supports for perinatal mental health disorders.

4        (3) The objectives set forth in subsection (2)(a) to (d) of this section may be achieved  
5                    by incorporating the panel's findings and recommendations into other programs  
6                    administered by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services that are intended to  
7                    improve maternal health care quality and safety.

8        (4) On or before November 1 of each year, the panel shall submit a report to the  
9                    Interim Joint Committee on Health, Welfare, and Family Services and the  
10                   Advisory Council for Medicaid Services describing the panel's work and any  
11                   recommendations to address identified gaps in services and supports for perinatal  
12                   mental health disorders.

13        ➔Section 2. In the event the Legislative Research Commission dissolves the  
14 Interim Joint Committee on Health, Welfare, and Family Services and establishes another  
15 interim joint committee or multiple interim joint committees with jurisdiction over health  
16 services or families and children, the report required in Section 1 of this Act shall be  
17 submitted to that interim joint committee.