

1 AN ACT relating to the Health Access Nurturing Development Services Program.

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

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 211.690 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) There is established within the Cabinet for Health and Family Services the Health
5 Access Nurturing Development Services (HANDS) Program as a voluntary
6 statewide home visitation program, for the purpose of providing assistance to at-risk
7 parents during the prenatal period and until the child's third birthday. The HANDS
8 Program recognizes that parents are the primary decision-makers for their children.
9 The goals of the HANDS Program are to:
- 10 (a) Facilitate safe and healthy delivery of babies;
 - 11 (b) Provide information about optimal child growth and human development;
 - 12 (c) Facilitate the safety and health of homes; ~~and~~
 - 13 (d) Encourage greater self-sufficiency of families; **and**
 - 14 **(e) Provide information about maternal and postpartum depression.**
- 15 (2) The cabinet shall administer the HANDS Program in cooperation with ~~the Cabinet~~
16 ~~for Health and Family Services and the~~ local public health departments. The
17 voluntary home visitation program may supplement, but shall not duplicate, any
18 existing program that provides assistance to parents of young children.
- 19 (3) The HANDS Program shall include an educational component on the recognition
20 and prevention of pediatric abusive head trauma, as defined in KRS 620.020.
- 21 (4) **The HANDS Program shall include an educational component on the**
22 **recognition and treatment of maternal and postpartum depression.**
- 23 **(5)** Participants in the HANDS Program shall express informed consent to participate
24 by written agreement on a form promulgated by the Cabinet for Health and Family
25 Services.