

AN ACT

relating to parenting and postpartum counseling information to be provided to a pregnant woman.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 161, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter R to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER R. PARENTING AND POSTPARTUM COUNSELING INFORMATION

Sec. 161.451. RESOURCE LIST. (a) A hospital, birthing center, physician, nurse midwife, or midwife who provides prenatal care to a pregnant woman during gestation or at delivery of an infant shall:

(1) provide the woman with a resource list of the names, addresses, and phone numbers of professional organizations that provide postpartum counseling and assistance to parents;

(2) document in the patient's record that the patient received the information described in Subdivision (1); and

(3) retain the documentation for at least three years in the hospital's, birthing center's, physician's, nurse midwife's, or midwife's records.

(b) The list must include resources a parent may contact to receive counseling and assistance for postpartum depression and other emotional traumas associated with pregnancy and parenting.

(c) A hospital, birthing center, physician, nurse midwife, or midwife who provides prenatal care to a woman during gestation or

1 at delivery is presumed to have complied with this section if the
2 woman received prior prenatal care from another hospital, birthing
3 center, physician, or midwife in this state during the same
4 pregnancy.

5 Sec. 161.452. DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT. The department shall:

6 (1) establish guidelines for the provision of the
7 information required by Section 161.451;

8 (2) make available on the department's website a
9 printable list of professional organizations that provide
10 postpartum counseling and assistance to parents; and

11 (3) update the list required under Subdivision (2)
12 monthly.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 341 was passed by the House on May 10, 2003, by a non-record vote; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 341 on May 30, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 341 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 28, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor