

By: Farrar

H.B. No. 143

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a strategic plan to address postpartum depression.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 32.046 to read as follows:

Sec. 32.046. POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION STRATEGIC PLAN. (a) In this section, "postpartum depression" means a disorder with postpartum onset that is categorized as a mood disorder by the American Psychiatric Association in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5), or a subsequent edition adopted by rule by the executive commissioner.

(b) The executive commissioner shall develop and the department shall implement a five-year strategic plan to improve access to postpartum depression screening, referral, treatment, and support services. Not later than September 1 of the last fiscal year in each five-year period, the executive commissioner shall develop a new strategic plan for the next five fiscal years beginning with the following fiscal year.

(c) The strategic plan required under this section must provide strategies to:

(1) increase awareness among state-administered program providers who may serve women who are at risk of or are experiencing postpartum depression about the prevalence and effects of postpartum depression on outcomes for women and

1 children;

2 (2) establish a referral network of community-based
3 mental health providers and support services addressing postpartum
4 depression;

5 (3) increase women's access to formal and informal
6 peer support services, including access to certified peer
7 specialists who have received additional training related to
8 postpartum depression;

9 (4) raise public awareness of and reduce the stigma
10 related to postpartum depression; and

11 (5) leverage sources of funding to support existing
12 community-based postpartum depression screening, referral,
13 treatment, and support services.

14 (d) The executive commissioner shall coordinate with the
15 statewide health coordinating council, the office of mental health
16 coordination, and the statewide behavioral health coordinating
17 council in developing the strategic plan under this section.

18 (e) The executive commissioner shall update annually the
19 strategic plan developed under this section.

20 SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2018, the executive
21 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
22 develop the initial strategic plan required by Section 32.046,
23 Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

24 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
25 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
26 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
27 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

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1 Act takes effect December 1, 2017.