

1-1 By: Farrar, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Kolkhorst) H.B. No. 253
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 16, 2019;
1-3 April 17, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Health
1-4 & Human Services; May 8, 2019, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 8, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to a strategic plan to address postpartum depression.
1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-21 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Health and Safety
1-22 Code, is amended by adding Section 32.046 to read as follows:
1-23 Sec. 32.046. POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION STRATEGIC PLAN. (a)
1-24 The commission shall develop and implement a five-year strategic
1-25 plan to improve access to postpartum depression screening,
1-26 referral, treatment, and support services. Not later than
1-27 September 1 of the last fiscal year in each five-year period, the
1-28 commission shall develop a new strategic plan for the next five
1-29 fiscal years beginning with the following fiscal year.
1-30 (b) The strategic plan must provide strategies to:
1-31 (1) increase awareness among state-administered
1-32 program providers who may serve women who are at risk of or are
1-33 experiencing postpartum depression about the prevalence and
1-34 effects of postpartum depression on outcomes for women and
1-35 children;
1-36 (2) establish a referral network of community-based
1-37 mental health providers and support services addressing postpartum
1-38 depression;
1-39 (3) increase women's access to formal and informal
1-40 peer support services, including access to certified peer
1-41 specialists who have received additional training related to
1-42 postpartum depression;
1-43 (4) raise public awareness of and reduce the stigma
1-44 related to postpartum depression; and
1-45 (5) leverage sources of funding to support existing
1-46 community-based postpartum depression screening, referral,
1-47 treatment, and support services.
1-48 (c) The commission shall coordinate with the department,
1-49 the statewide health coordinating council, the office of mental
1-50 health coordination, and the statewide behavioral health
1-51 coordinating council in developing the strategic plan.
1-52 (d) The commission, in consultation with the department,
1-53 the statewide health coordinating council, the office of mental
1-54 health coordination, and the statewide behavioral health
1-55 coordinating council, shall annually review and update, as
1-56 necessary, the strategic plan.
1-57 (e) For purposes of this section, "postpartum depression"
1-58 means a disorder in which a woman experiences moderate to severe
1-59 depression following a pregnancy, regardless of whether the
1-60 pregnancy resulted in birth, or an act defined by Section
1-61 245.002(1).

2-1 SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2020, the Health and
2-2 Human Services Commission shall develop the initial strategic plan
2-3 required by Section 32.046, Health and Safety Code, as added by this
2-4 Act.

2-5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-9 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

* * * * *

2-10