
HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2021 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by House Committee on Insurance to Original House Bill No. 190
by Representative Willard

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, at the beginning of line 5, change "require" to "provide relative to"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 6, after "findings;" delete the remainder of the line at the beginning of line 7, delete "reimbursement;" and insert "to create the Louisiana Doula Registry Board and provide for its purpose, composition, and duties;"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, line 12, delete "to define key terms;" and insert "to provide for definitions;"

AMENDMENT NO. 4On page 2, delete lines 14 and 15 in their entirety and insert "deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments. A health coverage plan shall not differentiate between services performed by a midwife within his lawful scope of practice and services by a physician with respect to copayment or annual deductible amounts or coinsurance percentages."**AMENDMENT NO. 5**

On page 2, delete lines 22 through 24 in their entirety

AMENDMENT NO. 6On page 2, at the beginning of line 25, change "(3)" to "(2)"**AMENDMENT NO. 7**

On page 3, delete lines 14 through 29 in their entirety, and delete page 4 in its entirety, and insert the following:

"§1059.1. Legislative findings; Louisiana Doula Registry Board; purpose; composition; duties of the board

A.(1) The legislature hereby finds and declares that research indicates maternal mortality, severe maternal morbidity, infant mortality, preterm birth, and unexpected outcomes of pregnancy and birth resulting in significant health consequences are rising in the United States, and that these outcomes occur more frequently in Louisiana than in other states. Louisiana has the highest maternal death rate in the nation and the second highest infant death rate in the nation.

(2) The benefits of doula care have been documented in numerous studies including the 2017 Cochrane Review of twenty-six trials of continuous labor support and doula care involving over fifteen thousand women in seventeen different countries. The numerous benefits of doula care include decreased cesarean sections, increased spontaneous vaginal births, shortened duration of birth, increased maternal satisfaction postpartum, improved breastfeeding rates, and lower rates of preterm labor and low birth weight.

1 B.(1) The legislature hereby creates within the Louisiana Department of
2 Health the Louisiana Doula Registry Board, hereafter referred to in this Section as
3 the "doula registry board", for the purpose of reviewing and approving doula
4 registration to allow for health insurance reimbursement of doula services.

5 (2) The doula registry board shall create the criteria for the registration
6 application, review submitted doula registration applications, and grant registration
7 status to doulas seeking health insurance reimbursement to promote safe and
8 equitable care for every mother and every birth in this state.

9 C. The doula registry board shall perform all of the following tasks:

10 (1) Review applications for doulas to register to receive health insurance
11 reimbursement in Louisiana.

12 (2) Approve applications to designate registered doula status.

13 (3) Notify applicants of approval or denial of doula registration status.

14 (4) Maintain a statewide registry of doulas approved for health insurance
15 reimbursement in Louisiana.

16 D.(1) The doula registry board shall be composed of the following members:

17 (a) One representative of an organization providing doula services for people
18 giving birth in Louisiana in Region 1 appointed by the medical director of the
19 Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

20 (b) One representative of an organization providing doula services for people
21 giving birth in Louisiana in Region 2 appointed by the medical director of the
22 Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

23 (c) One representative of an organization providing doula services for people
24 giving birth in Region 3 appointed by the medical director of the Louisiana Perinatal
25 Quality Collaborative.

26 (d) One representative of an organization providing doula services for people
27 giving birth in Louisiana in Region 4 appointed by the medical director of the
28 Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

29 (e) One representative of an organization providing doula services for people
30 giving birth in Louisiana in Region 5 appointed by the medical director of the
31 Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

32 (f) One representative of an organization providing doula services for people
33 giving birth in Louisiana in Region 6 appointed by the medical director of the
34 Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

35 (g) One representative of an organization providing doula services for people
36 giving birth in Louisiana in Region 7 appointed by the medical director of the
37 Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

38 (h) One representative of an organization providing doula services for people
39 giving birth in Louisiana in Region 8 appointed by the medical director of the
40 Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

41 (i) One representative of an organization providing doula services for people
42 giving birth in Louisiana in Region 9 appointed by the medical director of the
43 Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

1 (j) One person with lived-experience having used doula services for at least
2 two births.

3 (k) One doula with lactation training.

4 (l) One representative from Sista Midwife Productions.

5 (m) One representative from Community Birth Companion.

6 (n) One representative from Birthmark Doula Collective.

7 (o) One representative from H.E.R. Institute.

8 (2) The doula registry board shall elect from among its members a practicing
9 doula as chairperson.

10 (3) Members of the doula registry board shall serve without compensation
11 for up to two years with the option for reappointment.

12 (4) The doula registry board shall hold quarterly public meetings unless
13 otherwise provided by vote of the doula registry board or by order of the chairperson.

14 (5) The doula registry board may establish subcommittees and appoint
15 persons to those subcommittees, including persons who are not board members, nor
16 voting members, as it deems necessary and appropriate to accomplish its goals.

17 E. Members of the nonvoting subcommittee shall include and are not limited
18 to all of the following:

19 (1) One representative of New Orleans Breastfeeding Center.

20 (2) One representative of March of Dimes.

21 (3) One representative of National Birth Equity Collaborative.

22 (4) One representative of Institute of Women & Ethnic Studies.

23 (5) One obstetrician with demonstrated work rooted in community, health
24 equity, and training in equitable practices.

25 (6) One certified professional midwife.

26 (7) One certified nurse midwife.

27 (8) One community nurse practitioner.

28 (9) One representative from Louisiana Medicaid.

29 (10) One representative from Louisiana Hospital Association.

30 (11) One representative from each private health insurer in Louisiana as
31 determined by the doula registry board.

32 F. The Louisiana Department of Health shall provide staff support to the
33 doula registry board.

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1 G. Nothing in this Section prohibits any person from practicing as a doula
2 in this state, regardless of whether such person is registered in accordance with the
3 provisions of this Section."

4 AMENDMENT NO. 8

5 On page 5, at the end of line 28, change "January 1, 2022" to "January 1, 2023"