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The original instrument was prepared by Brandi Cannon. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Curry J. Lann.

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DIGEST

SB 300 Reengrossed 2024 Regular Session Duplessis

Proposed law requires any health coverage plan delivered or issued for delivery in this state that provides benefits for maternity services to include coverage for the following healthcare services:

- (1) Nutrition counseling services provided by a licensed dietitian or licensed nutritionist in the first trimester of the pregnancy, regardless of whether there is a diagnosis of gestational diabetes or any other chronic health condition, when recommended by the treating healthcare provider.
- (2) Postpartum services provided by a qualified lactation care provider.

Proposed law provides that the required coverage may be subject to annual deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments consistent with the terms of the health coverage plan.

Proposed law requires a qualified lactation care provider to achieve and maintain certification as a breastfeeding counselor by the Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice or as a lactation consultant by the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners.

Proposed law prohibits terminology in any health coverage plan policy or contract that is discriminatory against licensed dietitians, licensed nutritionists, lactation consultants, or their services.

Proposed law defines "breastfeeding counselor", "health coverage plan", "lactation consultant", "licensed dietitian", "licensed nutritionist", "nationally recognized accreditation agency", and "qualified lactation care provider".

Proposed law applies to any new policy, contract, program, or health coverage plan issued on and after Jan. 1, 2026, and requires any policy, contract, or health coverage plan in effect prior to Jan. 1, 2026, to conform to proposed law on or before the renewal date, but no later than Jan. 1, 2027.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 22:1059.4 and 1059.5)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Insurance to the original bill

1. Changes postpartum services from lactation consultant to qualified lactation care provider.
2. Adds definitions.
3. Adds requirements to be a qualified lactation care provider.

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the engrossed bill

1. Corrects the name of the certifying entity for a qualified lactation care provider, breastfeeding counselor, and lactation consultant.
2. Removes the definition of "nationally recognized accreditation program".
3. Changes the application of proposed law to any new policy, contract, program, or health coverage plan issued on and after Jan. 1, 2026, and requires any policy, contract, or health coverage plan in effect prior to Jan. 1, 2026, to convert to conform to proposed law on or before the renewal date, but no later than Jan. 1, 2027.