

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1148

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MATTHIESEN.

2505H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to health insurance coverage of maternity services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 376, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto two new sections, to be known as sections 376.1755 and 376.1758, to read as follows:

376.1755. 1. For purposes of this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Certified nurse midwife", the same meaning given to the term in section 335.016;

(2) "Health benefit plan", the same meaning given to the term in section 376.1350;

(3) "Health carrier", the same meaning given to the term in section 376.1350;

(4) "Midwife", a certified nurse midwife or professional midwife;

(5) "Professional midwife", any midwife allowed to practice in this state in accordance with the provisions of section 376.1753.

2. Each health carrier or health benefit plan that offers or issues health benefit plans that are delivered, issued for delivery, continued, or renewed in this state on or after January 1, 2024, and that provide coverage for maternity services shall provide coverage for health care services provided by a midwife.

3. The coverage provided for in this section may be subject to annual deductibles, coinsurance, and co-payments. A health benefit plan subject to the provisions of subsection 2 of this section shall not differentiate between services performed by a midwife within the midwife's lawful scope of practice and services

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 performed by a physician with respect to co-payments, annual deductible amounts, or
19 coinsurance percentages.

20 4. Whenever any health benefit plan subject to the provisions of subsection 2 of
21 this section provides for reimbursement of any services that are within the lawful scope
22 of practice of certified nurse midwives and professional midwives, the insured or other
23 person entitled to benefits under the health benefit plan shall be entitled to
24 reimbursement for the services, whether the services are performed by a physician or
25 a midwife.

26 5. Terminology in any health benefit plan subject to the provisions of subsection
27 2 of this section that is deemed discriminatory against certified nurse midwives,
28 professional midwives, or midwifery or that inhibits reimbursement for midwifery
29 services at the in-network rate is void and unenforceable.

30 6. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a supplemental insurance
31 policy, including a life care contract, accident-only policy, specified disease policy,
32 hospital policy providing a fixed daily benefit only, Medicare supplement policy, long-
33 term care policy, short-term major medical policy of six months' or less duration, or any
34 other supplemental policy as determined by the director of the department of commerce
35 and insurance.

376.1758. 1. For purposes of this section, the term "doula" means an individual
2 who has been trained to provide physical, emotional, and educational support, but not
3 medical or midwifery care, to pregnant and birthing women and their families before,
4 during, and after childbirth.

5 2. The department of health and senior services shall review and approve doula
6 registration to allow for health insurance reimbursement of doula services.

7 3. The department of health and senior services shall:

8 (1) Create the criteria for the doula registration application;

9 (2) Review applications for doulas to register to receive health insurance
10 reimbursement in this state;

11 (3) Approve applications to designate registered doula status;

12 (4) Notify applicants of approval or denial of doula registration status; and

13 (5) Maintain a statewide registry of doulas approved for health insurance
14 reimbursement in this state.

15 4. Nothing in this section prohibits any person from practicing as a doula in this
16 state regardless of whether the person is registered in accordance with the provisions of
17 this section.

18 5. The department of health and senior services shall promulgate all necessary
19 rules and regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a

20 rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority
21 delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to
22 all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and
23 chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
24 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul
25 a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority
26 and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2023, shall be invalid and void.

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