SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1820

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PRICE.

3908H.01I JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to health insurance reimbursement of doula 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 one new section, to be known as section 376.1758, to read as follows:

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

- 2. The department of health and senior services shall review and approve doula registration to allow for health insurance reimbursement of doula services.
 - 3. The department of health and senior services shall:

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- (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;
 - (3) Approve or deny applications for doula registration based on the criteria created under subdivision (1) of this subsection;
- 13 (4) Notify applicants of approval or denial of doula registration. Any denial notification shall include the specific reason or reasons for the denial; and
- 15 **(5)** Maintain a statewide registry of doulas approved for health insurance reimbursement in this state.

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.

HB 1820 2

4. In creating the criteria for the doula registration application to be used to approve doula registration, the department of health and senior services shall consult relevant organizations including, but not limited to, the Missouri Community Doula Council and other community doula organizations that support access to community-based doula services in the state.

- 5. Nothing in this section prohibits any person from practicing as a doula in this state regardless of whether the person is registered in accordance with the provisions of this section.
- 6. The department of health and senior services shall promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2026, shall be invalid and void.

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