

**ASSEMBLY, No. 4940**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**218th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JANUARY 17, 2019

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Assemblyman JAMEL C. HOLLEY**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, Murphy, Lampitt, Vainieri Huttie and Chaparro**

**SYNOPSIS**

Directs DOH to develop standardized perinatal health curriculum for community health workers.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/15/2019)**

1 AN ACT concerning perinatal health training of community health  
2 workers and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 1. The Department of Health shall develop a standardized  
8 perinatal health curriculum for training community health workers  
9 in their provision of education and support services to women. The  
10 curriculum shall include education on factors and behaviors that  
11 affect maternal and infant health and childbirth, including, but not  
12 limited to: alcohol and substance use during pregnancy; maternal  
13 medical conditions that affect pregnancy; premature births and low  
14 birthweight babies; caesarean sections and labor induction; labor  
15 and delivery; infant mortality; breastfeeding; shaken baby  
16 syndrome; and perinatal mood disorders. The curriculum shall  
17 further include information on: shared decision making; informed  
18 consent; and resources available in the State for women, including,  
19 but not limited to, the State Central Intake Program.

20 The department may, in developing the curriculum, utilize  
21 information or resources developed by another state, a professional  
22 association with expertise in maternal and infant health, or an  
23 agency of the federal government.

24 The department shall promote and share the curriculum as best  
25 practices for community doulas and child birth educators in the  
26 State, in order to increase access by women to current information  
27 on perinatal health.

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29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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34 This bill directs the Department of Health to develop a  
35 standardized curriculum concerning perinatal health for the training  
36 of community health workers who provide education and support  
37 services for women. The curriculum is to include education on  
38 factors and behaviors that affect maternal and infant health and  
39 childbirth, including, but not limited to: alcohol and substance use  
40 during pregnancy; maternal medical conditions that affect  
41 pregnancy; premature births and low birthweight babies; caesarean  
42 sections and labor induction; labor and delivery; infant mortality;  
43 breastfeeding; shaken baby syndrome; and perinatal mood  
44 disorders. The curriculum is to further include information on:  
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47 Central Intake Program.

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2 curriculum, utilize information or resources developed by another  
3 state, a professional association with expertise in maternal and  
4 infant health, or an agency of the federal government.

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6 share the curriculum as best practices for community doulas and  
7 child birth educators in the State.