

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 3377**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**218th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JANUARY 24, 2019

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

“Listening to Mothers Survey Act”; requires DOH to establish survey to evaluate and improve maternity care access and services.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on March 18, 2019, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/6/2019)**

1 AN ACT concerning maternity care and supplementing Title 26 of  
2 the Revised Statutes.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 1. a. The Commissioner of Health shall develop a maternity  
8 care experience survey to evaluate women's experiences with  
9 maternity care services provided throughout the pre-conception,  
10 pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum periods. The survey shall  
11 include, at a minimum, questions concerning the woman's  
12 experiences with maternity care service providers and her  
13 perceptions of how she was received by practitioners, how well her  
14 questions and concerns were addressed, the responsiveness and  
15 availability of service providers, and whether she was offered  
16 information and services with regard to key health metrics related to  
17 maternity care. In addition, the survey shall include the option for  
18 respondents to report cultural, demographic, and socioeconomic  
19 background data.

20 b. The survey developed by the commissioner pursuant to this  
21 section shall be distributed to women receiving maternity care  
22 services at a hospital, ambulatory care facility, or birthing center  
23 licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.), and  
24 women shall be offered the opportunity to voluntarily complete the  
25 survey following the termination of a pregnancy, regardless of  
26 whether the pregnancy ends in live birth, or at such time as a  
27 woman concludes a course of treatment related to maternity or  
28 reproductive care, such as assisted reproduction services that do not  
29 result in pregnancy or the administration of long-term or permanent  
30 contraception, including sterilization. The survey shall be  
31 distributed or otherwise made available no earlier than 14 days  
32 following the termination of the pregnancy or the end of a course of  
33 treatment related to maternity or reproductive care, but no later than  
34 90 days following termination of the pregnancy or the end of the  
35 course of treatment.

36 c. Survey data collected pursuant to this section shall be  
37 reviewed to identify local and Statewide trends in the provision of  
38 maternity care and disparities in care received by discrete racial,  
39 cultural, and socioeconomic groups, and to develop programs,  
40 resources, and strategies to improve access to, and the quality of,  
41 maternity care services throughout the State. The commissioner  
42 may contract with a third party entity to administer the survey,  
43 review survey data, and produce the report required pursuant to  
44 subsection d. of this section.

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Senate SBA committee amendments adopted March 18, 2019.

1       d. The commissioner shall make survey data collected pursuant  
2 to this section available through the Department of Health's Internet  
3 website in a user-friendly format, and shall, no later than 18 months  
4 after the effective date of this act, submit a report to the Legislature,  
5 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), concerning  
6 the results of the survey and the commissioner's recommendations  
7 for legislation or other appropriate action; provided that nothing in  
8 this subsection shall be construed to authorize the disclosure of any  
9 personal identifying information or confidential patient information.

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11       2. The Commissioner of Health, pursuant to the  
12 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
13 seq.), shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the  
14 provisions of this act.

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16       3. This act shall take effect <sup>1</sup>**immediately** 180 days after the  
17 date of enactment<sup>1</sup>.