

ASSEMBLY, No. 1077

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY

District 11 (Monmouth)

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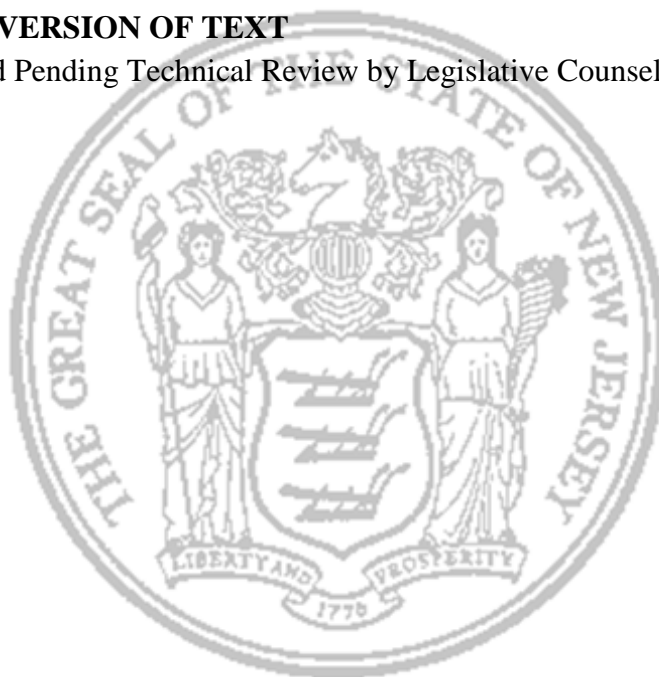
**Assemblyman Houghtaling, Assemblywomen Timberlake, McKnight,
Reynolds-Jackson and Assemblyman Danielsen**

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOH to develop and implement plan to improve access to postpartum depression screening.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/25/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning mental health 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 Department of Health shall develop and implement a
8 plan to improve access to postpartum depression screening, referral,
9 treatment, and support services.

10 b. The plan shall provide strategies to:

11 (1) increase awareness among mental health care service
12 providers who treat women experiencing postpartum depression
13 with regard to the prevalence and effects of postpartum depression
14 on women and children;

15 (2) establish a referral network of mental health care providers
16 and support services for women who are in need of postpartum
17 depression treatment;

18 (3) increase women's access to formal and informal peer support
19 services, including access to certified peer specialists who have
20 received training related to postpartum depression;

21 (4) raise public awareness for, and reduce the stigma related to,
22 postpartum depression; and

23 (5) provide available funds to postpartum depression screening,
24 referral, treatment, and support services.

25

26 2. The Commissioner of Health shall adopt rules and
27 regulations, in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
28 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as are necessary to effectuate
29 the provisions of this act.

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31 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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36 This bill requires the Department of Health (department) to
37 develop and implement a plan to improve access to postpartum
38 depression screening.

39 Under the bill, the department is to develop and implement a
40 plan to improve access to postpartum depression screening, referral,
41 treatment, and support services. The plan is to provide strategies to:

42 (1) increase awareness among mental health care service providers
43 who treat women experiencing postpartum depression with regard
44 to the prevalence and effects of postpartum depression on women
45 and children; (2) establish a referral network of mental health care

46 providers and support services for women who are in need of
47 postpartum depression treatment; (3) increase women's access to
48 formal and informal peer support services, including access to

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1 certified peer specialists who have received training related to
2 postpartum depression; (4) raise public awareness for, and reduce
3 the stigma related to postpartum depression; and (5) provide
4 available funds to postpartum depression screening, referral,
5 treatment, and support services.