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AB-1357 Perinatal services: maternal mental health. (2021-2022)

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ENROLLED SEPTEMBER 08, 2021

PASSED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 03, 2021

PASSED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2021

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 18, 2021

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 1357

> **Introduced by Assembly Member Cervantes** (Coauthor: Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry)

> > February 19, 2021

An act to amend Section 123490 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to perinatal health services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1357, Cervantes. Perinatal services: maternal mental health.

Existing law provides for the implementation by the State Department of Public Health of a statewide, comprehensive community-based perinatal services program and requires the department to enter into contracts, grants, or agreements with health care providers to deliver those services in a coordinated effort, as specified, in medically underserved areas or areas with demonstrated need.

This bill would require the department, for purposes of that program, to develop and maintain on its internet website a referral network of community-based mental health providers and support services addressing postpartum depression, prenatal, delivery, and postpartum care, neonatal and infant care services, and support groups, to improve access to postpartum depression screening, referral, treatment, and support services in medically underserved areas and areas with demonstrated need.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 123490 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

123490. (a) The department shall develop and maintain a statewide comprehensive community-based perinatal services program and enter into contracts, grants, or agreements with health care providers to deliver these services in a coordinated effort to the extent permitted under federal law and regulation. These contracts, grants, or agreements shall be made in medically

underserved areas or areas with demonstrated need. This section does not prevent reallocation of resources or use of new moneys for the development of new community-based comprehensive perinatal systems in underserved areas or areas with demonstrated need, and supplementation of systems already in existence.

- (b) For the purposes of this section, the department shall develop and maintain on its internet website a referral network of community-based mental health providers and support services addressing postpartum depression, prenatal, delivery, and postpartum care, neonatal and infant care services, and support groups, to improve access to postpartum depression screening, referral, treatment, and support services in the areas described in subdivision (a).
- (c) As a condition of receiving funds from the Maternal and Child Health program, contractors shall bill the Medi-Cal program for services provided to Medi-Cal recipients.