

House File 807 - Reprinted

HOUSE FILE 807
BY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 589)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 24, 2025)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating the compassion and care for medically challenging
2 pregnancies Act.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **135S.1 Title.**

2 This chapter shall be known as the "*Compassion and Care for*
3 *Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act*".

4 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **135S.2 Definitions.**

5 For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context otherwise
6 requires:

7 1. "*Department*" means the department of health and human
8 services.

9 2. "*Health care practitioner*" means a physician licensed
10 pursuant to chapter 148, a physician assistant licensed pursuant
11 to chapter 148C, an advanced registered nurse practitioner
12 licensed pursuant to chapter 152, or an advanced practice
13 registered nurse under chapter 152E.

14 3. "*Lethal fetal anomaly*" means a fetal condition diagnosed
15 before birth that will, with reasonable certainty, result in the
16 death of the child three months after birth.

17 4. "*Perinatal hospice service*" means comprehensive support
18 to a pregnant woman and her family that includes support from
19 the time of diagnosis of a lethal fetal anomaly, through the
20 time of birth and the death of the infant, and through the
21 postpartum period. "*Perinatal hospice services*" may include but
22 are not limited to counseling and medical care by maternal-fetal
23 medical specialists, obstetricians, neonatologists, anesthesia
24 specialists, clergy, social workers, and specialty nurses focused
25 on alleviating fear and ensuring that the pregnant woman and
26 her family experience the life and death of the child in a
27 comfortable and supportive environment.

28 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. **135S.3 Perinatal hospice services —**
29 **health care practitioner role — list and information.**

30 1. A health care practitioner who diagnoses a lethal fetal
31 anomaly may do any of the following:

32 a. Inform the pregnant woman, orally and in person, that
33 perinatal hospice services are available and offer to refer the
34 pregnant woman for such services.

35 b. Provide the pregnant woman with the list and information

1 sheet regarding available perinatal hospice services compiled and
2 provided by the department pursuant to subsection 2.

3 2. a. The department shall compile a geographically
4 organized list of, and an information sheet regarding, perinatal
5 hospice services available in Iowa and nationally.

6 b. The department shall post the list and information sheet
7 compiled under this subsection, available in both English and
8 Spanish, on the department's internet site.

9 c. The internet site and information sheet shall include all
10 of the following:

11 (1) A statement indicating that perinatal hospice services
12 are an innovative and compassionate model of support for a
13 pregnant woman who is informed that her baby has a lethal fetal
14 anomaly and chooses to continue her pregnancy.

15 (2) A general description of the perinatal hospice services
16 available.

17 (3) At the request of a perinatal hospice service included on
18 the list, the perinatal hospice service's informational materials
19 and contact information, including whether twenty-four-hour
20 perinatal hospice services are available.