

FEB 24 2005  
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 448  
BY MASCHER

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to services available to women during pregnancy  
2 and postpartum.

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

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HF 448

1 Section 1. Section 135.11, Code 2005, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 19A. Develop a model plan for  
4 institutional health facilities as defined in section 135.61,  
5 maternal health centers, and other providers under the purview  
6 of the department that provide services to women during  
7 pregnancy or immediately following the birth of a child. The  
8 model plan shall address a provider's provision of mental  
9 health assessments and referrals to women receiving services  
10 from the provider during pregnancy and postpartum.

11 Sec. 2. Section 135.106, subsection 2, paragraph d, Code  
12 2005, is amended to read as follows:

13 d. Provision of systematic screening, prenatally or upon  
14 the birth of a child, to identify high-risk families. The  
15 screening process shall include but is not limited to  
16 provision of mental health assessments and referrals of women  
17 during pregnancy and postpartum.

18 Sec. 3. Section 255A.2, Code 2005, is amended by adding  
19 the following new unnumbered paragraph:

20 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. The services provided under the  
21 statewide obstetrical and newborn indigent patient care  
22 program shall include but are not limited to mental health  
23 assessments and treatment during pregnancy and postpartum for  
24 the women covered by the program.

25 Sec. 4. Section 514C.12, subsection 1, Code 2005, is  
26 amended to read as follows:

27 1. Notwithstanding section 514C.6, a person who provides  
28 an individual or group policy of accident or health insurance  
29 or individual or group hospital or health care service  
30 contract issued pursuant to chapter 509, 509A, 514, or 514A or  
31 an individual or group health maintenance organization  
32 contract issued and regulated under chapter 514B, ~~which is~~  
33 ~~delivered, amended, or renewed on or after July 1, 1996, and~~  
34 which provides maternity benefits, which are not limited to  
35 complications of pregnancy, or newborn care benefits, shall

1 not terminate inpatient benefits or require discharge of a  
2 mother or the newborn from a hospital following delivery  
3 earlier than determined to be medically appropriate by the  
4 attending physician after consultation with the mother and in  
5 accordance with guidelines adopted by rule by the  
6 commissioner. The guidelines adopted by rule shall be  
7 consistent with or may adopt by reference the guidelines for  
8 perinatal care established by the American academy of  
9 pediatrics and the American college of obstetricians and  
10 gynecologists which provide that when complications are not  
11 present, the postpartum hospital stay ranges from a minimum of  
12 forty-eight hours for a vaginal delivery to a minimum of  
13 ninety-six hours for a cesarean birth, excluding the day of  
14 delivery. The guidelines adopted by rule by the commissioner  
15 shall also provide that in the event of a discharge from the  
16 hospital prior to the minimum stay established in the  
17 guidelines, a postdischarge follow-up visit shall be provided  
18 to the mother and newborn by providers competent in postpartum  
19 care and newborn assessment if determined medically  
20 appropriate as directed by the attending physician, in  
21 accordance with the guidelines. In addition, the guidelines  
22 shall provide for coverage of mental health assessment and  
23 treatment of women provided during pregnancy and postpartum  
24 under the policies and contracts subject to this section that  
25 are delivered, amended, or renewed on or after July 1, 2005.

26 EXPLANATION

27 This bill relates to services available to women during  
28 pregnancy and postpartum.

29 Code section 135.11, relating to the duties of the Iowa  
30 department of public health, is amended to require the  
31 department to develop a model plan for provision of mental  
32 health assessments and referrals to mothers during pregnancy  
33 and postpartum. The model plan applies to institutional  
34 health facilities, maternal health centers, and others under  
35 the purview of the department that provide services to women

1 during pregnancy or immediately following the birth of a  
2 child. Code section 135.61 defines an institutional health  
3 facility as a hospital, health care facility, organized  
4 outpatient health facility, surgical facility, community  
5 mental health facility, or birth center.

6 Code section 135.106, relating to the healthy opportunities  
7 for parents to experience success (HOPES) - healthy families  
8 Iowa (HFI) program, is amended to require the program's  
9 screening process to include provision of mental health  
10 assessments and referrals of women during pregnancy and  
11 postpartum.

12 Code section 255A.2, relating to establishment of the  
13 statewide obstetrical and newborn indigent patient care  
14 program administered by the department, is amended. The  
15 amendment requires the program to include mental health  
16 assessments and treatment provided during pregnancy and  
17 postpartum.

18 Code section 514C.6, relating to individual and group  
19 health insurance policies and contracts subject to state  
20 regulation that provide maternity care, is amended. The  
21 guidelines adopted by the insurance commissioner for such  
22 policies and contracts are required to provide for coverage of  
23 mental health assessment and treatment of women during  
24 pregnancy and postpartum, effective for policies and contracts  
25 delivered, amended, or renewed on or after July 1, 2005.

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