

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a strategic plan to address postpartum depression.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

4 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Health and Safety
5 Code, is amended by adding Section 32.046 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 32.046. POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION STRATEGIC PLAN. (a)
7 The commission shall develop and implement a five-year strategic
8 plan to improve access to postpartum depression screening,
9 referral, treatment, and support services. Not later than
10 September 1 of the last fiscal year in each five-year period, the
11 commission shall develop a new strategic plan for the next five
12 fiscal years beginning with the following fiscal year.

13 (b) The strategic plan must provide strategies to:

22 (3) increase women's access to formal and informal
23 peer support services, including access to certified peer
24 specialists who have received additional training related to

1 postpartum depression;

2 (4) raise public awareness of and reduce the stigma

3 related to postpartum depression; and

4 (5) leverage sources of funding to support existing

5 community-based postpartum depression screening, referral,

6 treatment, and support services.

7 (c) The commission shall coordinate with the department,

8 the statewide health coordinating council, the office of mental

9 health coordination, and the statewide behavioral health

10 coordinating council in developing the strategic plan.

11 (d) The commission, in consultation with the department,

12 the statewide health coordinating council, the office of mental

13 health coordination, and the statewide behavioral health

14 coordinating council, shall annually review and update, as

15 necessary, the strategic plan.

16 (e) For purposes of this section, "postpartum depression"

17 means a disorder in which a woman experiences moderate to severe

18 depression following a pregnancy, regardless of whether the

19 pregnancy resulted in birth, or an act defined by Section

20 245.002(1).

21 SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2020, the Health and

22 Human Services Commission shall develop the initial strategic plan

23 required by Section 32.046, Health and Safety Code, as added by this

24 Act.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

H.B. No. 253

- 1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
- 2 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

H.B. No. 253

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 253 was passed by the House on April 16, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 89, Nays 55, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 253 was passed by the Senate on May 15, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 2.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor