



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB0354

Introduced 1/29/2021, by Rep. LaToya Greenwood

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/5-18.5 new

Amends the Medical Assistance Article of the Illinois Public Aid Code. Requires perinatal doula services and evidence-based home visiting services to be covered under the medical assistance program for persons who are otherwise eligible for medical assistance. Provides that perinatal doula services include regular visits beginning in the prenatal period and continuing into the postnatal period, inclusive of continuous support during labor and delivery, that support healthy pregnancies and positive birth outcomes. Provides that perinatal doula services may be embedded in an existing program, such as evidence-based home visiting. Provides that perinatal doula services provided during the prenatal period may be provided weekly, services provided during the labor and delivery period may be provided for the entire duration of labor and the time immediately following birth, and services provided during the postpartum period may be provided up to 12 months postpartum. Requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to adopt rules. Requires the Department, during the rulemaking process, to consider the expertise of and consult with doula program experts, doula training providers, practicing doulas, and home visiting experts, along with State agencies implementing perinatal doula services and relevant bodies under the Illinois Early Learning Council. Requires the Department to seek any State plan amendments or waivers necessary to implement the amendatory Act and to secure federal financial participation for expenditures made by the Department for perinatal doula services and evidence-based home visiting services. Effective July 1, 2022.

LRB102 10589 KTG 15918 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 adding Section 5-18.5 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/5-18.5 new)

7 Sec. 5-18.5. Perinatal doula and evidence-based home
8 visiting services.

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 "Home visiting" means a voluntary, evidence-based strategy
11 used to support pregnant people, infants, and young children
12 and their caregivers to promote infant, child, and maternal
13 health, to foster educational development and school
14 readiness, and to help prevent child abuse and neglect. Home
15 visitors are trained professionals whose visits and activities
16 focus on promoting strong parent-child attachment to foster
17 healthy child development.

18 "Perinatal doula" means a trained provider who provides
19 regular, voluntary physical, emotional, and educational
20 support, but not medical or midwife care, to pregnant and
21 birthing persons before, during, and after childbirth,
22 otherwise known as the perinatal period.

23 "Perinatal doula training" means any doula training that

1 focuses on providing support throughout the prenatal, labor
2 and delivery, or postpartum period, and reflects the type of
3 doula care that the doula seeks to provide.

4 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article,
5 perinatal doula services and evidence-based home visiting
6 services shall be covered under the medical assistance program
7 for persons who are otherwise eligible for medical assistance
8 under this Article. Perinatal doula services include regular
9 visits beginning in the prenatal period and continuing into
10 the postnatal period, inclusive of continuous support during
11 labor and delivery, that support healthy pregnancies and
12 positive birth outcomes. Perinatal doula services may be
13 embedded in an existing program, such as evidence-based home
14 visiting. Perinatal doula services provided during the
15 prenatal period may be provided weekly, services provided
16 during the labor and delivery period may be provided for the
17 entire duration of labor and the time immediately following
18 birth, and services provided during the postpartum period may
19 be provided up to 12 months postpartum.

20 (c) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall
21 adopt rules to administer this Section. In this rulemaking,
22 the Department shall consider the expertise of and consult
23 with doula program experts, doula training providers,
24 practicing doulas, and home visiting experts, along with State
25 agencies implementing perinatal doula services and relevant
26 bodies under the Illinois Early Learning Council. This body of

1 experts shall inform the Department on the credentials
2 necessary for perinatal doula and home visiting services to be
3 eligible for Medicaid reimbursement and the rate of
4 reimbursement for home visiting and perinatal doula services
5 in the prenatal, labor and delivery, and postpartum periods.
6 Every 2 years, the Department shall assess the rates of
7 reimbursement for perinatal doula and home visiting services
8 and adjust rates accordingly.

9 (d) The Department shall seek such State plan amendments
10 or waivers as may be necessary to implement this Section and
11 shall secure federal financial participation for expenditures
12 made by the Department in accordance with this Section.

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
14 2022.