



# 193rd Legislative Session - bills related to perinatal mental health and reproductive justice

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As of February 15, 2023

# HD.3100/SD.1327 - An Act promoting access to midwifery care

This bill would create and require licensure for midwives who provide out-of-hospital birth care under the oversight of a new Board of Midwifery, consistent with most other states in the nation and recommendations from the Special Commission on Racial Inequities in Maternal Health. The bill also would permit midwives to carry and administer life-saving medications and provide health payer coverage for midwifery services.

Formerly known as the "Out-of-Hospital Birth Access and Safety Act."

Rep. Kay Khan/Rep. Brandy Fluker Oakley

Sen. Becca Rausch

## SD.2201 - An Act enhancing post-pregnancy mental health care

This bill would target the harmful impacts of unaddressed post-pregnancy mental health needs, by requiring full insurance coverage for all post-pregnancy mental health needs. The bill is inclusive of all post-pregnancy circumstances, including those that do not result in a baby.

Sen. Becca Rausch

## HD.3129 - An Act relative to postpartum depression screenings

The bill would require MassHealth to cover screening for PPD in mothers at pediatrician's visits up to one year following birth.

Rep. Carole Fiola

# HD.126/SD.688 - An Act relative to paid pregnancy loss leave

The bill would require employers to grant employees 10 days of paid leave for absence related to pregnancy loss, an unsuccessful round of IUI or an assisted reproductive technology procedure, a failed or incomplete adoption, a failed surrogacy arrangement, or a diagnosis or event that impacts pregnancy or fertility. This also covers leave for an absence to care for a spouse or domestic partner experiencing the above-listed circumstances.

Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa/Sen. Joan Lovely

## SD.1160 - An Act increasing access to maternal postpartum home visiting services

The Department of Public Health would establish and administer a statewide system of programs providing universal postpartum home visiting services, and require insurance coverage for at least one visit within 8 weeks postpartum. Services would include: screenings for, e.g., substance use, emotional health, personal safety; clinical assessment of the birthing person and infant; education and support; referrals to community resources (e.g. breastfeeding supports); follow up phone calls, and more.

Sen. Joan Lovely

## HD.2762/SD.239 - An Act establishing a diaper benefits pilot program

This bill would create a pilot program under which DPH would issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for diaper banks, food banks, and food pantries to provide diapers to low-income parents to address diaper need and diaper insufficiency.

Rep. Mindy Domb/Rep. Smitty Pignatelli

Sen. Joan Lovely

# HD.3966/SD.1966 - An Act updating the regulations governing licensed birth centers in Massachusetts

The bill would support new and existing birth centers by addressing regulations that inhibit the development and sustainability of freestanding birth centers.

Rep. Manny Cruz/Rep. Chynah Tyler

Sen. Jo Comerford



HD.2965/SD.1736 - An Act to expand equitable perinatal mental health services;  
HD.516 - An Act establishing maternal mental health equity grant programs; and  
HD.520 - An Act establishing a maternal mental health equity grant program

The bills establish two grant programs: one would grow and diversify the perinatal mental health workforce by investing in schools or programs offering education and training in perinatal mental health, and the second would invest in a range of community-based programs that support perinatal mental health, such as group prenatal care, suicide prevention, and SUD treatment for pregnant and postpartum individuals.

Rep. Brandy Fluker Oakley  
Sen. Liz Miranda

Rep. Mike Kushmerek/Rep. Sally Kerans

# SD.2401 - An Act relative to birthing justice in the Commonwealth

An omnibus bill encompassing many policies addressing perinatal health, equity, and birthing justice.

Sen. Liz Miranda