A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Health Occupations – Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives – Previous Cesarean Section

FOR the purpose of altering the circumstances under which a licensed direct-entry midwife is prohibited from assuming or taking certain responsibility for a patient who had a previous cesarean section; requiring a licensed direct-entry midwife to consult with a health care practitioner and document the consultation if a patient had a previous cesarean section that resulted in a certain incision and was performed at least a certain number of months before a certain date; and generally relating to the practice of licensed direct-entry midwifery and cesarean sections.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health Occupations

Section 8–6C–03(11) and 8–6C–04(a)(20) and (21)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Health Occupations

Section 8–6C–04(a)(22)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health Occupations

8–6C–03.
A licensed direct-entry midwife may not assume or continue to take responsibility for a patient’s pregnancy and birth care and shall arrange for the orderly transfer of care to a health care practitioner for a patient who is already under the care of the licensed direct-entry midwife, if any of the following disorders or situations is found to be present at the initial interview or if any of the following disorders or situations occur as prenatal care proceeds:

(11) Previous uterine surgery, including:

(I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 8–6C–04 OF THIS SUBTITLE, a cesarean section [or myomectomy]; OR

(II) MYOMECTOMY;

8–6C–04.

(a) A licensed direct-entry midwife shall consult with a health care practitioner, and document the consultation, the recommendations of the consultation, and the discussion of the consultation with the client, if any of the following conditions are present during prenatal care:

(20) Inflammatory bowel disease, in remission; [or]

(21) Active genital herpes lesions during pregnancy; OR

(22) A SINGLE PREVIOUS CESAREAN SECTION THAT:

(I) RESULTED IN THE PATIENT HAVING A CONFIRMED LOW TRANSVERSE INCISION; AND

(II) WAS PERFORMED AT LEAST 18 MONTHS BEFORE THE EXPECTED DATE OF BIRTH FOR THE CURRENT PREGNANCY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.