

HOUSE BILL 1118

J5, J2, J1

6lr2076
CF SB 891

By: Delegates White Holland, Acevero, Addison, Alston, Amprey, Crutchfield, Fennell, Hill, J. Long, Mireku-North, Pasteur, Phillips, Roberson, Roberts, Ross, Ruth, Smith, Taveras, Taylor, Toles, Wilkins, ~~and Woods~~ Woods, Bagnall, Cullison, Guzzone, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaufman, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, Rosenberg, and Woorman

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2026

Assigned to: Health

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health, Health Insurance, and Health Occupations – Perinatal ~~Mental~~**
3 **Behavioral Health Conditions**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring carriers to provide a standing referral to a ~~mental~~ behavioral
5 health care provider for a certain period of time; ~~clarifying the application of~~
6 ~~provisions requiring carriers to allow a member to obtain a referral to a provider who~~
7 ~~is not part of the carrier's provider network when seeking care for a mental health~~
8 ~~condition in certain circumstances~~; requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance
9 Program and certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health
10 maintenance organizations to provide coverage for screening for perinatal ~~mental~~
11 behavioral health conditions at certain times; altering and establishing
12 requirements related to the identification and development of training programs
13 that improve early identification of perinatal ~~mental~~ behavioral health conditions;
14 requiring ~~the Maryland Department of Health to establish a perinatal mental health~~
15 ~~condition screening program~~ certain health care providers to screen for perinatal
16 behavioral health conditions; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to
17 identify certain screening tools and to assist certain health care providers with
18 accessing resources and referral services related to screening for perinatal
19 behavioral health conditions; requiring certain ~~applicants for the renewal of a health~~
20 ~~occupation license or certificate to provide documentation that the applicant~~
21 ~~completed continuing education credit hours~~ health occupations boards to grant a

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 certain number of hours of continuing education credits for each hour of continuing
 2 education completed by certain individuals on perinatal ~~mental~~ behavioral health
 3 conditions; and generally relating to perinatal ~~mental~~ behavioral health conditions.

4 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 5 Article – Health – General
 6 Section 15–103(a)(1)
 7 Annotated Code of Maryland
 8 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 10 Article – Health – General
 11 Section 15–103(a)(2)(xxvii) and (xxviii), 20–1801, and 20–1802
 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
 13 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

14 BY adding to
 15 Article – Health – General
 16 Section 15–103(a)(2)(xxix), 20–1801, and 20–1804
 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
 18 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 20 Article – Insurance
 21 Section 15–830(a) and (c)
 22 Annotated Code of Maryland
 23 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

24 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 25 Article – Insurance
 26 Section 15–830(d)
 27 Annotated Code of Maryland
 28 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

29 BY adding to
 30 Article – Insurance
 31 Section 15–864
 32 Annotated Code of Maryland
 33 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

34 ~~BY adding to~~
 35 ~~Article – Health – General~~
 36 ~~Section 20–1801 and 20–1804~~
 37 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 38 ~~(2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

39 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~

1 ~~Article – Health – General~~
 2 ~~Section 20–1801 and 20–1802~~
 3 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 4 ~~(2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

5 BY adding to
 6 Article – Health Occupations
 7 Section 1–231
 8 Annotated Code of Maryland
 9 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Health – General**

13 15–103.

14 (a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance
 15 Program.

16 (2) The Program:

17 (xxvii) Beginning on January 1, 2026, if providing coverage for the
 18 delivery of anesthesia, shall provide coverage for the delivery of anesthesia in accordance
 19 with § 15–862 of the Insurance Article; [and]

20 (xxviii) Beginning on January 1, 2026, shall provide calcium score
 21 testing in accordance with § 15–863 of the Insurance Article; AND

22 **(XXIX) BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2027, SHALL PROVIDE**
 23 **COVERAGE FOR SCREENING FOR PERINATAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS AT**
 24 **THE 1–MONTH, 2–MONTH, 4–MONTH, AND 6–MONTH WELL VISITS WITHIN THE FIRST**
 25 **YEAR OF THE CHILD’S LIFE.**

26 **Article – Insurance**

27 15–830.

28 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

29 (2) “Carrier” means:

30 (i) an insurer that offers health insurance other than long–term
 31 care insurance or disability insurance;

- 1 (ii) a nonprofit health service plan;
- 2 (iii) a health maintenance organization;
- 3 (iv) a dental plan organization; or
- 4 (v) except for a managed care organization as defined in Title 15,
5 Subtitle 1 of the Health – General Article, any other person that provides health benefit
6 plans subject to State regulation.

7 (3) (i) “Member” means an individual entitled to health care benefits
8 under a policy or plan issued or delivered in the State by a carrier.

9 (ii) “Member” includes a subscriber.

10 ~~(4) “MENTAL HEALTH DISORDER” INCLUDES A PERINATAL MENTAL~~
11 ~~HEALTH CONDITION.~~

12 ~~[(4)] (5)~~ “Nonphysician specialist” means a health care provider:

- 13 (i) 1. who is not a physician;
- 14 2. who is licensed or certified under the Health Occupations
15 Article; and
- 16 3. who is certified or trained to treat or provide health care
17 services for a specified condition or disease in a manner that is within the scope of the
18 license or certification of the health care provider; or

19 (ii) that is licensed as a behavioral health program under § 7.5–401
20 of the Health – General Article.

21 ~~(6) (5)~~ (I) “PERINATAL ~~MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
22 CONDITION” MEANS A ~~MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITION OCCURRING
23 DURING PREGNANCY, ~~THE POSTPARTUM PERIOD, OR THE PERINATAL PERIOD OR~~
24 WITHIN 1 YEAR AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF A PREGNANCY, INCLUDING A
25 PREGNANCY THAT DOES NOT RESULT IN A LIVE BIRTH.

26 (II) “PERINATAL ~~MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITION”
27 INCLUDES POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION.

28 [(5)] ~~(7)~~ (6) (i) “Provider panel” means the providers that contract with a
29 carrier either directly or through a subcontracting entity to provide health care services to
30 enrollees of the carrier.

1 (ii) “Provider panel” does not include an arrangement in which any
 2 provider may participate solely by contracting with the carrier to provide health care
 3 services at a discounted fee-for-service rate.

4 [(6)] ~~(8)~~ (7) “Specialist” means a physician who is certified or trained to
 5 practice in a specified field of medicine and who is not designated as a primary care provider
 6 by the carrier.

7 (c) (1) (I) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a member
 8 who is pregnant shall receive a standing referral to an obstetrician, in accordance with this
 9 subsection.

10 [(2)] (II) After the member who is pregnant receives a standing referral to
 11 an obstetrician, the obstetrician is responsible for the primary management of the
 12 member’s pregnancy, including the issuance of referrals in accordance with the carrier’s
 13 policies and procedures, through the postpartum period.

14 (2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, A
 15 MEMBER SHALL RECEIVE A STANDING REFERRAL ~~TO A MENTAL HEALTH CARE~~
 16 ~~PROVIDER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION, FOR THE DURATION OF THE~~
 17 ~~MEMBER’S PREGNANCY AND 1 YEAR AFTER THE MEMBER GIVES BIRTH TO A~~
 18 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER ACTING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE
 19 PROVIDER’S LICENSE, INCLUDING A PSYCHIATRIST, PSYCHOLOGIST, LICENSED
 20 SOCIAL WORKER-CLINICAL, OR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR FOR:

21 (I) THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES RECOGNIZED BY THE
 22 UNITED STATES PREVENTIVE SERVICES TASK FORCE AS PREVENTIVE BENEFITS;
 23 AND

24 (II) THE DURATION OF THE MEMBER’S PREGNANCY AND 1 YEAR
 25 AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PREGNANCY.

26 (3) A written treatment plan may not be required when a standing referral
 27 is to an obstetrician ~~OR MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER under this
 28 subsection.

29 (d) (1) Each carrier shall establish and implement a procedure by which a
 30 member may request a referral to a specialist or nonphysician specialist who is not part of
 31 the carrier’s provider panel in accordance with this subsection.

32 (2) The procedure shall provide for a referral to a specialist or nonphysician
 33 specialist who is not part of the carrier’s provider panel if:

34 (i) 1. the member is diagnosed with a condition or disease that
 35 requires specialized health care services or medical care; and

1 2. A. the carrier does not have in its provider panel a
2 specialist or nonphysician specialist with the professional training and expertise to treat or
3 provide health care services for the condition or disease; or

4 B. the carrier cannot provide reasonable access to a specialist
5 or nonphysician specialist with the professional training and expertise to treat or provide
6 health care services for the condition or disease without unreasonable delay or travel,
7 including within the reasonable appointment waiting time and travel distance standards
8 established in regulation for mental health and substance use disorder services; or

9 (ii) 1. the member is seeking mental health or substance use
10 disorder care; and

11 2. the carrier cannot provide reasonable access to a specialist
12 or nonphysician specialist within the reasonable appointment waiting time and travel
13 distance standards established in regulation for mental health and substance use disorder
14 services.

15 (3) The procedure shall ensure that a request to obtain a referral to a
16 specialist or nonphysician specialist who is not part of the carrier's provider panel is
17 addressed in a timely manner that is:

18 (i) appropriate for the member's condition; and

19 (ii) in accordance with the timeliness requirements for
20 determinations made by private review agents under § 15–10B–06 of this title.

21 (4) If a member cannot access mental health or substance use disorder
22 services through the referral requirements under paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection,
23 the procedure shall require the carrier to provide additional assistance to the member in
24 identifying and arranging coverage of mental health or substance use disorder services by
25 a specialist or nonphysician specialist who is not part of the carrier's provider panel.

26 (5) If a carrier approves a member's request for a referral made in
27 accordance with this subsection, the carrier may not require utilization review other than
28 what would be required if the covered benefit were provided by a provider on the carrier's
29 provider panel.

30 (6) The procedure may not be used by a carrier as a substitute for
31 establishing and maintaining a sufficient provider network in accordance with § 15–112 of
32 this title.

33 (7) Each carrier shall:

34 (i) have a system in place that documents all requests to obtain a
35 referral to receive a covered service from a specialist or nonphysician specialist who is not
36 part of the carrier's provider panel;

1 (ii) inform members of the procedure to request a referral under
2 paragraph (1) of this subsection; and

3 (iii) provide the information documented under item (i) of this
4 paragraph to the Commissioner on request.

5 **15-864.**

6 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “PERINATAL ~~MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
7 CONDITION” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 15-830 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

8 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

9 (1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT
10 PROVIDE HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS
11 ON AN EXPENSE-INCURRED BASIS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES OR
12 CONTRACTS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND

13 (2) HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE
14 HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS UNDER
15 CONTRACTS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.

16 (C) ~~(1)~~ AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL PROVIDE
17 COVERAGE FOR SCREENING FOR PERINATAL ~~MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
18 CONDITIONS;

19 ~~(I) AT EACH PRENATAL VISIT;~~

20 ~~(II) AT LEAST ONCE WITHIN 6 WEEKS AFTER THE INSURED OR~~
21 ~~ENROLLEE GAVE BIRTH; AND~~

22 ~~(III) AT EACH THE 1-MONTH, 2-MONTH, 4-MONTH, AND~~
23 ~~6-MONTH WELL CHILD VISIT VISITS WITHIN THE FIRST YEAR OF THE CHILD’S LIFE.~~

24 ~~(2) (I) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, AN~~
25 ~~ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY SUBJECT THE COVERAGE REQUIRED UNDER~~
26 ~~THIS SUBSECTION TO A COPAYMENT OR COINSURANCE REQUIREMENT OR~~
27 ~~DEDUCTIBLE THAT AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION IMPOSES FOR SIMILAR~~
28 ~~COVERAGES UNDER THE SAME POLICY OR CONTRACT.~~

29 ~~(II) THE COPAYMENT OR COINSURANCE REQUIREMENT OR~~
30 ~~DEDUCTIBLE IMPOSED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT BE~~

1 ~~GREATER THAN THE COPAYMENT OR COINSURANCE REQUIREMENT OR DEDUCTIBLE~~
 2 ~~IMPOSED BY THE ENTITY FOR SIMILAR COVERAGES.~~

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
 4 as follows:

5 **Article – Health – General**

6 **20–1801.**

7 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
 8 INDICATED.

9 (B) “HEALTH CARE PROVIDER” MEANS A PERSON WHO IS LICENSED,
 10 CERTIFIED, OR OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS
 11 ARTICLE TO PROVIDE HEALTH OR MEDICAL CARE IN THE ORDINARY COURSE OF
 12 BUSINESS OR PRACTICE OF A PROFESSION.

13 (C) (1) “PERINATAL ~~MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITION” MEANS
 14 A ~~MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITION OCCURRING DURING PREGNANCY, ~~THE~~
 15 ~~POSTPARTUM PERIOD, OR THE PERINATAL PERIOD~~ OR WITHIN 1 YEAR AFTER THE
 16 CONCLUSION OF A PREGNANCY, INCLUDING A PREGNANCY THAT DOES NOT RESULT
 17 IN A LIVE BIRTH.

18 (2) “PERINATAL ~~MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITION”
 19 INCLUDES POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION.

20 [20–1801.] **20–1802.**

21 (a) [(1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

22 (2) (i) “Health care facility” means a facility or an office where health
 23 or medical care is provided to patients by a health care provider.

24 (ii) “Health care facility” includes a hospital and a limited service
 25 hospital.

26 (3) “Health care provider” means a person who is licensed, certified, or
 27 otherwise authorized under the Health Occupations Article to provide health or medical
 28 care in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession.

29 (4) “Hospital” has the meaning stated in § 19–301 of this article.

30 (5) “Limited service hospital” has the meaning stated in § 19–301 of this
 31 article.

1 (b)] The Department, in consultation with stakeholders, shall identify up-to-date,
2 evidence-based, written information about perinatal [mood and anxiety disorders]
3 ~~MENTAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS~~ that:

4 (1) Has been reviewed by medical experts and national and local
5 organizations specializing in maternal mental health;

6 (2) Is designed for use by health care providers and pregnant and
7 postpartum women and their families;

8 (3) Is culturally and linguistically appropriate for potential recipients of
9 the information; and

10 (4) Includes:

11 (i) Information addressing:

12 1. The signs and symptoms of perinatal mood and anxiety
13 disorders;

14 2. Perinatal medication usage;

15 3. Risk factors of perinatal [mood and anxiety disorders]
16 ~~MENTAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS~~, including perinatal loss and high-risk
17 pregnancy;

18 4. How and when to screen for symptoms of perinatal [mood
19 and anxiety disorders] ~~MENTAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS~~;

20 5. Brief intervention strategies; and

21 6. Evidence-based psychosocial treatments; and

22 (ii) Contact information for national and local maternal mental
23 health programs and services.

24 [(c)] (B) The Department shall:

25 (1) Provide the information identified by the Department under subsection
26 [(b)] (A) of this section to [health]:

27 (I) HEALTH care facilities and health care providers that provide
28 prenatal care, labor and delivery services, and postnatal care to expectant parents; AND

1 (II) EACH LOCAL SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION
2 PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN AGENCY IN THE STATE; and

3 (2) Make the information identified by the Department under subsection
4 [(b)] (A) of this section available on the Department's website.

5 (C) ~~A~~ AT LEAST ONCE DURING EACH TRIMESTER, A HEALTH CARE
6 PROVIDER WHO EVALUATES AND MANAGES PREGNANCY OR POSTPARTUM
7 PERINATAL CARE WHILE ACTING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE HEALTH CARE
8 PROVIDER'S LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE SHALL PROVIDE THE TO A PATIENT:

9 (1) THE INFORMATION IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER
10 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION TO A PATIENT AT EACH PRENATAL VISIT; OR

11 (2) OTHER APPROPRIATE INFORMATION ON PERINATAL
12 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS.

13 (D) A HOSPITAL SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION IDENTIFIED BY THE
14 DEPARTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION TO A BIRTHING PARENT ON
15 DISCHARGE FROM THE BIRTHING HOSPITAL.

16 [20-1802.] **20-1803.**

17 (a) The Department, in [collaboration with MedChi, The Maryland State Medical
18 Society, the Maryland Nurses Association, the Maryland Affiliate of the American College
19 of Nurse Midwives, the Maryland Psychological Association, and any other health
20 professional association or public health entity in the State identified by the Department]
21 **CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIANS, THE STATE BOARD OF**
22 **NURSING, AND POSTPARTUM SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL**, shall identify and develop
23 training programs that improve early identification of [postpartum depression and]
24 perinatal [mood and anxiety disorders] ~~MENTAL~~ **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS**
25 **THAT AN INDIVIDUAL MAY USE TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 1-231 OF THE**
26 **HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.**

27 (b) The programs **IDENTIFIED OR** developed under subsection (a) of this section
28 shall include continuing medical education programs developed by organizations that are
29 accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education.

30 (C) **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE A LIST OF TRAINING PROGRAMS**
31 **IDENTIFIED OR DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION ON REQUEST.**

32 **20-1804.**

1 (B) ~~(1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN~~
 2 ~~APPLICANT FOR THE RENEWAL OF A LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY A HEALTH~~
 3 ~~OCCUPATIONS BOARD UNDER THIS ARTICLE WHO INTERACTS WITH THE PERINATAL~~
 4 ~~POPULATION SHALL PROVIDE SATISFACTORY DOCUMENTATION WITH THE~~
 5 ~~RENEWAL APPLICATION THAT THE APPLICANT HAS COMPLETED AT LEAST TWO~~
 6 ~~CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT HOURS~~ EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD THAT
 7 REQUIRES A LICENSEE OR CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO COMPLETE CONTINUING
 8 EDUCATION AS A CONDITION OF THE RENEWAL OF THE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE
 9 SHALL GRANT AT LEAST 2 HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS FOR EVERY
 10 1 HOUR OF CONTINUING EDUCATION COMPLETED BY THE LICENSEE OR
 11 CERTIFICATE HOLDER ON PERINATAL ~~MENTAL~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS
 12 IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER § 20-1803 OF THE
 13 HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.

14 ~~(2) THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT UNDER~~
 15 ~~PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL APPLY ONLY TO AN APPLICANT'S FIRST~~
 16 ~~LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE RENEWAL AFTER APRIL 1, 2027.~~

17 (C) EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO
 18 CARRY OUT THIS SECTION, INCLUDING REGULATIONS ~~SPECIFYING WHICH~~
 19 ~~PROVIDERS ARE SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION~~ ESTABLISHING
 20 THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS THAT MAY BE
 21 GRANTED UNDER THIS SECTION.

22 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December 1,
 23 2026, the Maryland Health Care Commission shall:

24 (1) conduct an analysis in accordance with § 15-1501 of the Insurance
 25 Article on impact of:

26 (i) requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, the State
 27 Health Plan, and insurers and nonprofit health service plans that provide hospital,
 28 medical, or surgical benefits to individuals or groups on an expense-incurred basis under
 29 health insurance policies or contracts that are issued or delivered in the State and health
 30 maintenance organizations that provide hospital, medical, or surgical benefits to
 31 individuals or groups under contract that are issued or delivered in the State to provide
 32 coverage for screening for perinatal mental health conditions:

33 1. at each prenatal visit;

34 2. at least once within 6 weeks after the insured or enrollee
 35 gave birth; and

36 3. at each well child visit within the first year of the child's
 37 life; and

1 (ii) prohibiting the entities described in item (i) of this item from
2 subjecting the coverage required under item (i) of this item from:

3 1. imposing a copayment or coinsurance requirement or
4 deductible that is greater than the copayment or coinsurance requirement or deductible
5 imposed by the entity for similar coverages; or

6 2. imposing any copayment or coinsurance requirement or
7 deductible; and

8 (2) report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health
9 Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on its findings
10 from the analysis conducted in accordance with item (1) of this section.

11 SECTION ~~3~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall
12 apply to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the
13 State on or after January 1, 2027.

14 SECTION ~~4~~ 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall
15 take effect January 1, 2027.

16 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take
17 effect October 1, 2026.

18 SECTION ~~5~~ 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in
19 ~~Section 4~~ Sections 5 and 6 of this Act, this Act shall take effect ~~October 1, 2026~~ July 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.