



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Raised Bill No. 1160**

LCO No. 4869



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING PERINATAL MOOD AND ANXIETY DISORDERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Public Health, in  
2 consultation with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction  
3 Services, and organizations representing health care facilities and  
4 licensed health care professionals, shall develop a maternal mental  
5 health toolkit to provide information and resources regarding maternal  
6 mental health to licensed health care professionals and new parents in  
7 the state. Such toolkit shall include, but need not be limited to, (1)  
8 information about perinatal mood and anxiety disorders, including, but  
9 not limited to, the symptoms of such disorders, potential impact of such  
10 disorders on families and treatment options for a person with a perinatal  
11 mood or anxiety disorder; and (2) a list of licensed health care  
12 professionals, peer support networks and nonprofit organizations in the  
13 state that treat perinatal mood and anxiety disorders or provide support  
14 for persons with a perinatal mood or anxiety disorder and the family  
15 members of such persons. Not later than October 1, 2023, the  
16 Department of Public Health shall make such toolkit available on its

17 Internet web site.

18 Sec. 2. Section 19a-490u of the general statutes is repealed and the  
19 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

20 (a) Each hospital, as defined in section 19a-490, shall include training  
21 in the symptoms of dementia as part of such hospital's regularly  
22 provided training to staff members who provide direct care to patients.

23 (b) On and after October 1, 2021, each hospital shall include training  
24 in implicit bias as part of such hospital's regularly provided training to  
25 staff members who provide direct care to women who are pregnant or  
26 in the postpartum period. As used in this subsection, "implicit bias"  
27 means an attitude or internalized stereotype that affects a person's  
28 perceptions, actions and decisions in an unconscious manner and often  
29 contributes to unequal treatment of a person based on such person's  
30 race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability or  
31 other characteristic.

32 (c) On and after October 1, 2023, each hospital shall include training  
33 in perinatal mood and anxiety disorders as part of such hospital's  
34 regularly provided training to staff members who provide direct care to  
35 women who are pregnant or in the postpartum period.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2023</i>	19a-490u

**Statement of Purpose:**

To increase awareness of and education on perinatal mood and anxiety disorders.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*