

1 AN ACT relating to postpartum depression care.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 211 IS CREATED TO  
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall, in cooperation with maternal*  
6 *health and mental health professionals:*

7 *(a) Develop written information on postpartum depression and make it*  
8 *available on its Web site for access by birthing centers, hospitals that*  
9 *provide labor and delivery services, and the public; and*

10 *(b) Provide access to an evidence-based clinical assessment tool designed to*  
11 *detect the symptoms of postpartum depression or related mental health*  
12 *disorders on in its Web site for use by health care providers providing*  
13 *postnatal care and health care providers providing pediatric infant care.*

14 *(2) All birthing centers and hospitals that provide labor and delivery services shall,*  
15 *prior to discharge following pregnancy, provide pregnant women and, if possible,*  
16 *fathers and other family members, with complete information about postpartum*  
17 *depression, including its symptoms, methods of treatment, and available*  
18 *resources.*

19 *(3) Health care providers providing postnatal care to women for up to six (6) months*  
20 *following a pregnancy shall:*

21 *(a) Invite the woman to complete an assessment tool designed to detect the*  
22 *symptoms of postpartum depression or related mental health disorders; and*

23 *(b) Review the completed assessment tool in accordance with the formal*  
24 *opinions and recommendations of the American College of Obstetricians*  
25 *and Gynecologists.*

26 *(4) Beginning with the infant's one-month checkup until the infant is six (6) months*  
27 *old, health care providers providing pediatric care to an infant shall:*

- 1        (a) Invite the infant's birth mother to complete an assessment tool designed to  
2            detect the symptoms of postpartum depression or related mental health  
3            disorders;
- 4        (b) Review the completed assessment tool in accordance with the formal  
5            opinions and recommendations of the American College of Obstetricians  
6            and Gynecologists; and
- 7        (c) With the birth mother's consent, share the results of the postpartum  
8            depression assessment with the birth mother's primary health care provider  
9            or mental health care provider of her choice.