

HOUSE BILL 477

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023

INTRODUCED BY

Stefani Lord

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH; REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
TO DEVELOP A UNIVERSAL PRENATAL SUBSTANCE EXPOSURE SCREENING
TOOL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public Health Act is
enacted to read:

"~~[NEW MATERIAL]~~ PRENATAL SUBSTANCE EXPOSURE SCREENING.--

A. The department shall promulgate rules to develop
a universal prenatal substance exposure screening tool. The
screening tool shall:

(1) be a survey performed by a health care
provider during every prenatal checkup; and

(2) include questions that investigate whether
a pregnant patient has consumed any drugs or alcohol during the

.225212.1

underscoring material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 patient's pregnancy.

2 B. All answers provided by pregnant patients in
3 response to the universal prenatal substance exposure screening
4 tool shall be confidential. Evidence of prenatal substance
5 exposure that results from the screening tool shall not subject
6 a pregnant patient to the requirements of the Family Services
7 Act.

8 C. If a pregnant patient's answers to the universal
9 prenatal substance exposure screening tool indicate risk of
10 prenatal substance exposure, the health care provider
11 administering the screening tool shall refer the patient to a
12 provider that offers prenatal substance use treatment."