

HOUSE BILL 575

By Hemmer

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63,
relative to maternal mental health.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-6-233, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(c)

(1) In establishing continuing medical educational requirements pursuant to subsection (b), the board of medical examiners shall consider including a course in maternal mental health, which must address the following:

(A) Best practices in screening for maternal mental health disorders, including cultural competency and unintended bias as a means to build trust with mothers;

(B) The range of maternal mental health disorders;

(C) The range of evidence-based treatment options, including the importance of allowing a mother to be involved in developing the treatment plan; and

(D) When an obstetrician or a primary care doctor should consult with a psychiatrist versus making a referral.

(2) The board shall periodically update any curriculum developed pursuant to this subsection (c) to account for new research.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.