

# STATE OF NEW YORK

8529

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 5, 2024

Introduced by M. of A. SOLAGES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to the New York state community doula directory; and to repeal certain provisions of the public health law relating thereto

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Title 6-A of article 25 of the public health law, as added  
2 by a chapter of the laws of 2023 amending the public health law relating  
3 to establishing the New York state community doula directory for doulas  
4 serving Medicaid patients, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S.  
5 1867-A and A. 5435-A, is REPEALED.

6 § 2. The social services law is amended by adding a new section 365-p  
7 to read as follows:

8 § 365-p. Doulas for Medicaid. 1. Definitions. (a) For the purposes of  
9 this section, "doula" means a trained person who provides continuous  
10 physical, emotional, and informational support to a pregnant person and  
11 the family of such pregnant person during or a reasonable time after  
12 pregnancy.

13 (b) A doula may provide services in hospitals, birthing centers, at  
14 home deliveries and other community settings.

15 2. New York state community doula directory. (a) The department shall  
16 establish and maintain a community doula directory for doulas on the  
17 department's internet website for the purposes of Medicaid reimbursement  
18 and promoting doula services to Medicaid recipients.

19 (b) The directory shall include the following information concerning  
20 doulas such as:

21 (i) the name of the doula who provides doula services;

22 (ii) the address and location of where the doula provides doula  
23 services;

24 (iii) the name of each Medicaid provider that employs or contracts  
25 with a doula to provide doula services to eligible Medicaid recipients;

26 (iv) the doula's national provider identification number, if applica-  
27 ble; and

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (v) all documentation of criteria pursuant to subdivision three of  
2 this section.

3 (c) The department shall determine the method of registration and the  
4 documentation required to verify such criteria has been met.

5 (d) Each doula shall be responsible for completing the requirements  
6 pursuant to subdivision three of this section.

7 (e) The department shall not impose any fee on any doula to register  
8 for admittance into the New York state community doula directory.

9 (f) The community doula directory shall be publicly accessible at no  
10 cost to the doula or birthing person looking to hire a doula in their  
11 community.

12 3. Criteria for admittance into the New York state community doula  
13 directory. (a) Each doula seeking Medicaid reimbursement shall apply to  
14 be registered in the New York state community doula directory.

15 (b) A doula shall submit to the department a certified copy of such  
16 doula's certification from a doula educational organization or by demon-  
17 stration of satisfactory proficiency pursuant to this subdivision, and  
18 his, her, or their full name, address, phone number, email address, and  
19 if applicable, their national provider identification number.

20 § 3. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the same  
21 manner as a chapter of the laws of 2023 amending the public health law  
22 relating to establishing the New York state community doula directory  
23 for doulas serving Medicaid patients, as proposed in legislative bills  
24 numbers S. 1867-A and A. 5435-A, takes effect.