STATE OF NEW YORK

5992--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 24, 2023

Introduced by Sens. PERSAUD, ADDABBO, FERNANDEZ, SEPULVEDA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Women's Issues -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to permitting expecting and new mothers' access to their doulas

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

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 2500-m to read as follows:

§ 2500-m. Access to doulas. When a person is admitted to a maternal health care facility for delivery and/or inpatient care post-delivery, such person may designate a doula to have access to such person. The maternal health care facility shall not deny such person access to such person's designated doula. For the purposes of this section, the term "maternal health care facility" shall mean a hospital or freestanding birthing center providing perinatal services in accordance with article twenty-eight of this chapter and applicable regulations.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

LBD10180-03-3