

Enrolled

House Bill 3625

Sponsored by Representative TOMEI, Senators ROSENBAUM, TELFER; Representatives BARKER, BARNHART, BEYER, BOONE, BUCKLEY, CANNON, CLEM, DEMBROW, DOHERTY, GELSER, GREENLICK, KAHL, KOTEK, MATTHEWS, MAURER, NOLAN, READ, STIEGLER, VANORMAN, WITT, Senators DEVLIN, DINGFELDER, MONNES ANDERSON, MORRISSETTE, PROZANSKI, SHIELDS (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to Maternal Mental Health Awareness Month; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas maternal mental health directly affects women, infants and children and must be seen as a primary concern for the health and safety of families; and

Whereas perinatal mood disorders, which include depression, anxiety, mania and psychosis, are pervasive but treatable illnesses and occur in approximately one out of eight of all pregnant and postpartum women; and

Whereas research has shown that untreated maternal depression and anxiety during pregnancy or postpartum negatively affects birth outcomes and infant development, including infant mental health and brain development; and

Whereas maternal risk factors for the development of perinatal mood disorders can be reliably identified, assessed and treated by health care providers and public health systems; and

Whereas families should be informed of the importance of mental health during pregnancy and postpartum and can be given information that will empower them to take preventive measures; and

Whereas reliable, evidence-based methods for culturally competent risk evaluation, screening and treatment have been developed and could be adopted in Oregon; and

Whereas provider education and public awareness regarding maternal mental health is a public health priority; and

Whereas accessible local, state and federal resources for screening, assessment, referral and treatment need to be available to all childbearing families and their health care providers throughout the State of Oregon; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) May of each year is designated as Maternal Mental Health Awareness Month.

(2) The purpose of the designation is to:

(a) Encourage the Early Childhood Council to address perinatal mental health as a public health priority; and

(b) Encourage health care providers, parents, expecting parents and other stakeholders to collaborate in the development of a statewide care network for perinatal mental health and to increase awareness and understanding of the mental health needs of pregnant and postpartum women and their families.

SECTION 2. This 2010 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2010 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by House February 4, 2010

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Chief Clerk of House

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Speaker of House

Passed by Senate February 18, 2010

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President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M,....., 2010

Approved:

.....M,....., 2010

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Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M,....., 2010

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Secretary of State