

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3311

Ordered by the House April 20
Including House Amendments dated April 20

Sponsored by Representatives KOTEK, FREDERICK; Representatives CANNON, DOHERTY, HOYLE,
NATHANSON, TOMEI

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires Oregon Health Authority to explore ways to improve birth outcomes for women [*of color*] **who face disproportionately greater risk of poor birth outcomes** and to report to legislative committees in February 2012.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to birth outcomes; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 (a) **"Community health worker" means an individual who has expertise or experience in**
6 **public health and who works in an urban or rural community, either for pay or as a volun-**
7 **teer in association with a local health care system, to improve the health of members of the**
8 **community and increase the capacity of the community to meet the health care needs of its**
9 **residents, and who:**

10 (A) **Shares ethnicity, language, socioeconomic status and life experiences with the resi-**
11 **dents that the worker serves;**

12 (B) **Provides culturally appropriate health education and information;**

13 (C) **Assists people in receiving the care they need;**

14 (D) **Gives peer counseling and guidance on health behaviors;**

15 (E) **Empowers individuals and communities to achieve wellness; or**

16 (F) **Provides direct services such as first aid or blood pressure screening.**

17 (b) **"Doula" means a birth companion who provides personal, nonmedical support to**
18 **women and families throughout a woman's pregnancy, childbirth and post-partum experi-**
19 **ence.**

20 (2) **The Oregon Health Authority, including the Office of Multicultural Health and Ser-**
21 **vices, shall explore options for providing or utilizing doulas and other community health**
22 **workers in the state medical assistance program to improve birth outcomes for women who**
23 **face a disproportionately greater risk of poor birth outcomes.**

24 (3) **The authority shall report to the House committee on health care and any other ap-**
25 **propriate legislative committee in February 2012:**

26 (a) **Its findings under subsection (2) of this section; and**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **(b) All of the options for providing or utilizing services in the medical assistance program**
2 **that improve birth outcomes for women who face a disproportionately greater risk of poor**
3 **birth outcomes.**

4 SECTION 2. **This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
5 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect**
6 **on its passage.**

7
