

ASSEMBLY, No. 980

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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District 7 (Burlington)

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District 37 (Bergen)

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Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, Timberlake, Jimenez, Speight,
Assemblyman Armato, Assemblywomen McKnight, Mosquera, Downey
and Jasey**

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOH to conduct survey on status of antenatal and prenatal care clinics in New Jersey.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning maternity, antenatal, and prenatal care services
2 and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. The Department of Health shall conduct a survey and
8 analysis of antenatal and prenatal care clinics for the purpose of
9 evaluating the effectiveness of maternity, antenatal, and prenatal care
10 services throughout the State. The survey shall include data collected
11 from all antenatal and prenatal care clinics in the State, including
12 antenatal and prenatal care clinics that have closed or substantially
13 ceased operations of any of its beds, facilities, or services, within a
14 two-year period prior to the effective date of this act.

15 b. The purpose of the survey shall be to:

16 (1) inform policy on the certificate of need requirements as
17 provided by P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) concerning the
18 closure or discontinuance of all, or a component of, a antenatal and
19 prenatal care clinic's services;

20 (2) assess the availability of antenatal and prenatal care clinics and
21 their ability to provide maternity, antenatal, and prenatal care services;

22 (3) identify where low and moderate income pregnant women
23 receive maternity, antenatal, and prenatal care services; and

24 (4) collect cultural, demographic, and socioeconomic background
25 data about the pregnant women served by antenatal and prenatal care
26 clinics.

27 c. Survey data collected pursuant to this section shall be analyzed
28 to:

29 (1) identify local and Statewide trends and developments in the
30 provision of maternity, antenatal, and prenatal care services and
31 disparities in the care received by pregnant women based on economic
32 factors and the accessibility of antenatal and prenatal care clinics; and

33 (2) develop programs, resources, and strategies to improve access
34 to, and the quality of, maternity, antenatal, and prenatal care services
35 throughout the State.

36 The commissioner may contract with a third party entity to
37 administer the survey, review survey data, and produce the report
38 required pursuant to subsection d. of this section.

39 d. The commissioner shall make survey data collected pursuant to
40 this section available through the Department of Health's Internet
41 website in a user-friendly format, and shall, no later than 18 months
42 after the effective date of this act, submit a report to the Legislature,
43 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), concerning
44 the results of the survey and the commissioner's recommendations for
45 legislation or other appropriate action; provided that nothing in this
46 subsection shall be construed to authorize the disclosure of any
47 personal identifying information or confidential patient information.

1 e. As used in this section, "antenatal and prenatal care clinic"
2 means an inpatient or ambulatory health care facility licensed by the
3 Department of Health that provides maternity, antenatal, and prenatal
4 care services.

5
6 2. The Commissioner of Health, pursuant to the
7 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-
8 1 et seq.), shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the
9 provisions of this act.

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11 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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14 STATEMENT

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16 This bill requires the Commissioner of Health to conduct a
17 survey and analysis of antenatal and prenatal care clinics for the
18 purpose of evaluating the effectiveness of maternity, antenatal, and
19 prenatal care services throughout the State. The survey includes
20 data collected from all antenatal and prenatal care clinics in the
21 State, including antenatal and prenatal care clinics that have closed
22 or substantially ceased operation of any of its beds, facilities, or
23 services, within a two-year period prior to the effective date of the
24 bill. As used in the bill, "antenatal and prenatal care clinic" means
25 an inpatient or ambulatory health care facility licensed by the
26 Department of Health that provides maternity, antenatal, and
27 prenatal care services.

28 The purpose of the survey is to: inform policy on the certificate
29 of need requirements as provided by P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-
30 1 et seq.) concerning the closure or discontinuance of all, or a
31 component of, antenatal and prenatal care clinic's services; assess
32 the availability of antenatal and prenatal care clinics and their ability
33 to provide maternity, antenatal, and prenatal care services; identify
34 where low and moderate income pregnant women receive
35 maternity, antenatal, and prenatal care services; and collect cultural,
36 demographic, and socioeconomic background data about the
37 pregnant women served by antenatal and prenatal care clinics.

38 The collected survey data is to be analyzed to: identify local and
39 Statewide trends and developments in the provision of maternity,
40 antenatal, and prenatal care services and disparities in the care
41 received by pregnant women based on economic factors and the
42 accessibility of antenatal and prenatal care clinics; and develop
43 programs, resources, and strategies to improve access to, and the
44 quality of, maternity, antenatal, and prenatal care services
45 throughout the State.

46 Survey data is to be made available through the Department of
47 Health's website, and the commissioner is to submit a report to the
48 Legislature concerning the results of the survey and any

A980 CONAWAY, VAINIERI HUTTLE

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1 recommendations for legislation or other action. The bill specifies
2 that published and reported data is not to include any personal
3 identifying information or confidential patient information. The bill
4 authorizes the commissioner to contract with a third party entity to
5 administer the survey, review survey data, and produce the required
6 report.