

CHAPTER 2023-21

Senate Bill No. 300

An act relating to pregnancy and parenting support; providing a short title; creating s. 286.31, F.S.; defining the terms “educational institution” and “governmental entity”; prohibiting any person, governmental entity, or educational institution from expending state funds for a specified purpose; providing exceptions; amending s. 381.96, F.S.; revising the definitions of the terms “eligible client” and “pregnancy and parenting support services”; requiring the Department of Health to contract for the management and delivery of parenting support services, in addition to pregnancy support services; revising the contract requirements to conform to changes made by the act; requiring the department to report specified information to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date each year; amending s. 390.0111, F.S.; prohibiting physicians from knowingly performing or inducing a termination of pregnancy after the gestational age of the fetus is determined to be more than 6 weeks, rather than 15 weeks, with exceptions; providing an exception if the woman obtaining the abortion is doing so because she is a victim of rape, incest, or human trafficking, subject to certain conditions; requiring physicians to report known or suspected human trafficking of adults to local law enforcement; requiring physicians to report incidents of rape, incest, or human trafficking of minors to the central abuse hotline; prohibiting any person other than a physician from inducing a termination of pregnancy; prohibiting physicians from using telehealth to perform abortions; requiring that medications intended for use in a medical abortion be dispensed in person by a physician; prohibiting the dispensing of such medication through the United States Postal Service or any other courier or shipping service; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing s. 390.01112, F.S., relating to termination of pregnancies during viability; amending s. 390.012, F.S.; revising rules the Agency for Health Care Administration may develop and enforce to regulate abortion clinics; amending s. 456.47, F.S.; prohibiting telehealth providers from using telehealth to provide abortions; providing appropriations; providing effective dates.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the “Heartbeat Protection Act.”

Section 2. Section 286.31, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

286.31 Prohibited use of state funds.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) “Educational institution” means public institutions under the control of a district school board, a charter school, a state university, a

developmental research school, a Florida College System institution, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, the Florida Virtual School, private school readiness programs, voluntary prekindergarten programs, private K-12 schools, and private colleges and universities.

(b) “Governmental entity” means the state or any political subdivision thereof, including the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government; the independent establishments of the state, counties, municipalities, districts, authorities, boards, or commissions; and any agencies that are subject to chapter 286.

(2) Any person, governmental entity, or educational institution may not expend state funds as defined in s. 215.31 in any manner for a person to travel to another state to receive services that are intended to support an abortion as defined in s. 390.011, unless:

(a) The person, governmental entity, or educational institution is required by federal law to expend state funds for such a purpose; or

(b) There is a medical necessity for legitimate emergency medical procedures for termination of the pregnancy to save the pregnant woman’s life or to avert a serious risk of imminent substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman other than a psychological condition.

Section 3. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section 381.96, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.96 Pregnancy support and wellness services.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) “Department” means the Department of Health.

(b) “Eligible client” means any of the following:

1. A pregnant woman or a woman who suspects she is pregnant, and the family of such woman, who voluntarily seeks pregnancy support services and any woman who voluntarily seeks wellness services.

2. A woman who has given birth in the previous 12 months and her family.

3. A parent or parents or a legal guardian or legal guardians, and the families of such parents and legal guardians, for up to 12 months after the birth of a child or the adoption of a child younger than 3 years of age.

(c) “Florida Pregnancy Care Network, Inc.,” or “network” means the not-for-profit statewide alliance of pregnancy support organizations that provide pregnancy support and wellness services through a comprehensive system of care to women and their families.

(d) “Pregnancy and parenting support services” means services that promote and encourage childbirth, including, but not limited to:

1. Direct client services, such as pregnancy testing, counseling, referral, training, and education for pregnant women and their families. ~~A woman and her family shall continue to be eligible to receive direct client services for up to 12 months after the birth of the child.~~

2. Nonmedical material assistance that improves the pregnancy or parenting situation of families, including, but not limited to, clothing, car seats, cribs, formula, and diapers.

3. Counseling or mentoring, education materials, and classes regarding pregnancy, parenting, adoption, life skills, and employment readiness.

4. ~~Network Program~~ awareness activities, including a promotional campaign to educate the public about the pregnancy support services offered by the network and a website that provides information on the location of providers in the user’s area and other available community resources.

~~5.3.~~ Communication activities, including the operation and maintenance of a hotline or call center with a single statewide toll-free number that is available 24 hours a day for an eligible client to obtain the location and contact information for a pregnancy center located in the client’s area.

(e) “Wellness services” means services or activities intended to maintain and improve health or prevent illness and injury, including, but not limited to, high blood pressure screening, anemia testing, thyroid screening, cholesterol screening, diabetes screening, and assistance with smoking cessation.

(2) DEPARTMENT DUTIES.—The department shall contract with the network for the management and delivery of pregnancy and parenting support services and wellness services to eligible clients.

(3) CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.—The department contract shall specify the contract deliverables, including financial reports and other reports due to the department, timeframes for achieving contractual obligations, and any other requirements the department determines are necessary, such as staffing and location requirements. The contract shall require the network to:

(a) Establish, implement, and monitor a comprehensive system of care through subcontractors to meet the pregnancy and parenting support and wellness needs of eligible clients.

(b) Establish and manage subcontracts with a sufficient number of providers to ensure the availability of pregnancy and parenting support services and wellness services for eligible clients, and maintain and manage the delivery of such services throughout the contract period.

(c) Spend at least 85 90 percent of the contract funds on pregnancy and parenting support services, excluding services specified in subparagraph (1)(d)4., and wellness services.

(d) Offer wellness services through vouchers or other appropriate arrangements that allow the purchase of services from qualified health care providers.

(e) Require a background screening under s. 943.0542 for all paid staff and volunteers of a subcontractor if such staff or volunteers provide direct client services to an eligible client who is a minor or an elderly person or who has a disability.

(f) Annually monitor its subcontractors and specify the sanctions that shall be imposed for noncompliance with the terms of a subcontract.

(g) Subcontract only with providers that exclusively promote and support childbirth.

(h) Ensure that informational materials provided to an eligible client by a provider are current and accurate and cite the reference source of any medical statement included in such materials.

(i) Ensure that the department is provided with all information necessary for the report required under subsection (5).

(4) SERVICES.—Services provided pursuant to this section must be provided in a noncoercive manner and may not include any religious content.

(5) REPORT.—By July 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, the department shall report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the amount and types of services provided by the network; the expenditures for such services; and the number of, and demographic information for, women, parents, and families served by the network.

Section 4. Subsections (1), (2), (10), and (13) of section 390.0111, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

390.0111 Termination of pregnancies.—

(1) TERMINATION AFTER GESTATIONAL AGE OF 6 15 WEEKS; WHEN ALLOWED.—A physician may not knowingly perform or induce a termination of pregnancy if the physician determines the gestational age of the fetus is more than 6 15 weeks unless one of the following conditions is met:

(a) Two physicians certify in writing that, in reasonable medical judgment, the termination of the pregnancy is necessary to save the pregnant woman's life or avert a serious risk of substantial and irreversible

physical impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman other than a psychological condition.

(b) The physician certifies in writing that, in reasonable medical judgment, there is a medical necessity for legitimate emergency medical procedures for termination of the pregnancy to save the pregnant woman's life or avert a serious risk of imminent substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman other than a psychological condition, and another physician is not available for consultation.

(c) The pregnancy has not progressed to the third trimester ~~fetus has not achieved viability under s. 390.01112~~ and two physicians certify in writing that, in reasonable medical judgment, the fetus has a fatal fetal abnormality.

(d) The pregnancy is the result of rape, incest, or human trafficking and the gestational age of the fetus is not more than 15 weeks as determined by the physician. At the time the woman schedules or arrives for her appointment to obtain the abortion, she must provide a copy of a restraining order, police report, medical record, or other court order or documentation providing evidence that she is obtaining the termination of pregnancy because she is a victim of rape, incest, or human trafficking. If the woman is 18 years of age or older, the physician must report any known or suspected human trafficking to a local law enforcement agency. If the woman is a minor, the physician must report the incident of rape, incest, or human trafficking to the central abuse hotline as required by s. 39.201.

(2) IN-PERSON PERFORMANCE BY PHYSICIAN REQUIRED.—Only a physician may perform or induce a ~~No~~ termination of pregnancy shall be performed at any time except by a physician as defined in s. 390.011. A physician may not use telehealth as defined in s. 456.47 to perform an abortion, including, but not limited to, medical abortions. Any medications intended for use in a medical abortion must be dispensed in person by a physician and may not be dispensed through the United States Postal Service or by any other courier or shipping service.

(10) PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION.—Except as provided in subsections (3), (7), and (12):

(a) Any person who willfully performs, or actively participates in, a termination of pregnancy in violation of the requirements of this section ~~or s. 390.01112~~ commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(b) Any person who performs, or actively participates in, a termination of pregnancy in violation of this section ~~or s. 390.01112~~ which results in the death of the woman commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(13) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—Failure to comply with the requirements of this section or s. 390.01112 constitutes grounds for disciplinary action under each respective practice act and under s. 456.072.

Section 5. Section 390.01112, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 390.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

390.012 Powers of agency; rules; disposal of fetal remains.—

(1) The agency may develop and enforce rules pursuant to ss. 390.011-390.018 and part II of chapter 408 for the health, care, and treatment of persons in abortion clinics and for the safe operation of such clinics.

(a) The rules must ~~shall~~ be reasonably related to the preservation of maternal health of the clients and must.

(b) ~~The rules shall be in accordance with s. 797.03 and may not impose an unconstitutional burden on a woman's freedom to decide whether to terminate her pregnancy.~~

(c) ~~The rules shall provide for:~~

(a)1. The performance of pregnancy termination procedures only by a licensed physician.

(b)2. The making, protection, and preservation of patient records, which must ~~shall~~ be treated as medical records under chapter 458. When performing a license inspection of a clinic, the agency shall inspect at least 50 percent of patient records generated since the clinic's last license inspection.

(c)3. Annual inspections by the agency of all clinics licensed under this chapter to ensure that such clinics are in compliance with this chapter and agency rules.

(d)4. The prompt investigation of credible allegations of abortions being performed at a clinic that is not licensed to perform such procedures.

Section 7. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (2) of section 456.47, Florida Statutes, to read:

456.47 Use of telehealth to provide services.—

(2) PRACTICE STANDARDS.—

(f) A telehealth provider may not use telehealth to perform an abortion, including, but not limited to, medical abortions as defined in s. 390.011.

Section 8. (1) For the 2023-2024 fiscal year:

(a) In addition to any funds appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, the sum of \$5 million in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is appropriated to the Department of Health for the purpose of implementing s. 381.0051(3), (4), and (6), Florida Statutes.

(b) The sum of \$25 million in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is appropriated to the Department of Health for the purpose of implementing s. 381.96, Florida Statutes.

(2) This section takes effect upon this act becoming a law.

Section 9. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect 30 days after any of the following occurs: a decision by the Florida Supreme Court holding that the right to privacy enshrined in s. 23, Article I of the State Constitution does not include a right to abortion; a decision by the Florida Supreme Court in *Planned Parenthood v. State*, SC2022-1050, that allows the prohibition on abortions after 15 weeks in s. 390.0111(1), Florida Statutes, to remain in effect, including a decision approving, in whole or in part, the First District Court of Appeal's decision under review or a decision discharging jurisdiction; an amendment to the State Constitution clarifying that s. 23, Article I of the State Constitution does not include a right to abortion; or a decision from the Florida Supreme Court after March 7, 2023, receding, in whole or in part, from *In re T.W.*, 551 So. 2d 1186 (Fla. 1989), *North Fla. Women's Health v. State*, 866 So. 2d 612 (Fla. 2003), or *Gainesville Woman Care, LLC v. State*, 210 So. 3d 1243 (Fla. 2017).

Approved by the Governor April 13, 2023.

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