



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1270

PRINTERS NO. 3859

PRIME SPONSOR: Toohil

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: House Bill 1270, Printer's Number 3859, adds postpartum depression as a qualifying at-risk condition for early intervention services under the Early Intervention Services System Act. This legislation is effective in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the Early Intervention Services System Act to add children born to mothers who are at high risk for postpartum depression and referred by a physician, health care provider or parent to the statutorily defined list of population groups eligible for early intervention services. Section 103 (Definitions) is revised to add a definition for "postpartum depression," which is defined as "moderate to severe depression in a woman after she has given birth, which depression occurs after delivery or up to a year later."

HB 1270 also updates obsolete cross-references and outdated terminology throughout the Early Intervention Services System Act.

FISCAL IMPACT: According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, an estimated 1 in 8 women, or 12.5% will experience postpartum depression. There were 134,100 births in Pennsylvania in 2019. Assuming 75% of mothers are screened for depression, approximately 12,600 infants could have mother's experiencing postpartum depression. According to the Department of Human Services, it costs approximately \$1,780 annually for assessment and tracking services for each at-risk child referred to Early Intervention. If 50% or 6,300 infants are referred to Early Intervention for assessment and tracking, the estimated annual cost would be \$7.9 million in state funds (\$11.2 million in total funds). This estimate does not include any cost for additional early intervention services as DHS believes these children would be have been referred for services and enrolled in the program regardless of the mother having a diagnosis of postpartum depression.

PREPARED BY: Ann Bertolino
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 23, 2020

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.