
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2137 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY MAYES, CURRY, ISAACSON, GIRAL, KINSEY, T. DAVIS,
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SANCHEZ, HOHENSTEIN, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, D. WILLIAMS, POWELL AND
STEELE, MARCH 27, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, MARCH 27, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for maternal and newborn
3 supply kit; and establishing the Maternal and Newborn Supply
4 Kit Fund.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

9 CHAPTER 82

10 MATERNAL AND NEWBORN SUPPLY KIT

11 Sec.

12 8201. Scope of chapter.

13 8202. Purpose.

14 8203. Definitions.

15 8204. Program.

16 § 8201. Scope of chapter.

17 This chapter relates to the Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit

1 Program.

2 § 8202. Purpose.

3 The purpose of the Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit Program is
4 to reduce maternal and infant mortality, improve maternal and
5 infant health outcomes and improve postpartum health outcomes
6 through the distribution of a maternal and newborn supply kit to
7 the parents and guardians of infants in this Commonwealth.

8 § 8203. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
10 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Community-based organization." Any group affiliated with or
13 organized for the benefit of one or more communities or
14 neighborhoods, or any group organized to benefit the quality of
15 life in a residential area.

16 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

17 "Fund." The Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit Fund established
18 in section 8204(e) (relating to program).

19 "Maternal and newborn supply kit." A package containing
20 maternal and infant educational information and other maternal
21 and infant products as determined by the department.

22 "Program." The Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit Program
23 established under section 8204.

24 § 8204. Program.

25 (a) Establishment.--The Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit
26 Program is established in the department to provide educational
27 information and other maternal and infant products to parents
28 and guardians who reside in this Commonwealth.

29 (b) Procedure.--The department may form a public-private
30 partnership with an organization to provide a maternal and

1 newborn supply kit to parents or guardians of newborns residing
2 in this Commonwealth who complete the parent education syllabus
3 under subsection (c)(1) or who are referred by a community-based
4 organization to the department or the organization with which
5 the department established a public-private partnership after
6 the effective date of this subsection.

7 (c) Online parent education.--

8 (1) A parent or guardian who resides in this
9 Commonwealth who wishes to obtain a maternal and newborn
10 supply kit and who has not been referred by a community-based
11 organization to the department or the organization with which
12 the department establishes a public-private partnership must
13 complete a parent education syllabus prior to obtaining a
14 newborn supply kit to ensure proper use of the postpartum
15 care and infant care products and educate parents on the
16 generally accepted practices to reduce maternal and infant
17 mortality.

18 (2) The department shall create an online portal on the
19 department's publicly accessible Internet website containing
20 the parent education syllabus.

21 (3) The parent education syllabus shall be developed by
22 the department and shall include, but not be limited to,
23 postpartum care and infant care practices.

24 (4) The department shall design and implement a
25 sufficient certification process to ensure that a parent or
26 guardian has completed the parent education syllabus prior to
27 receiving a maternal and newborn supply kit.

28 (d) Maternal and newborn supply kit contents.--A supply kit
29 must contain the following items:

30 (1) For postpartum care:

- 1 (i) Postpartum maternity pads.
- 2 (ii) Perineal ice packs.
- 3 (iii) Witch hazel pads/medicated hemorrhoid wipes.
- 4 (iv) Perineal wash.
- 5 (v) Peri bottle.
- 6 (vi) Nipple cream.
- 7 (vii) Nursing pads.
- 8 (viii) Educational information on postpartum care as
9 determined by the department.

10 (2) For newborn care:

- 11 (i) A thermometer.
- 12 (ii) A nasal aspirator.
- 13 (iii) Vitamin D3.
- 14 (iv) Diaper rash cream or zinc oxide ointment.
- 15 (v) Receiving blankets.
- 16 (vi) Footed onesie pajamas.
- 17 (vii) Onesies.
- 18 (viii) Socks.
- 19 (ix) Diapers.
- 20 (x) Wipes.
- 21 (xi) Burp cloth.
- 22 (xii) Baby nail clippers.
- 23 (xiii) 2-in-1 shampoo/baby wash.
- 24 (xiv) Lotion.
- 25 (xv) Pacifiers.
- 26 (xvi) Petroleum jelly.
- 27 (xvii) Educational information on infant care and
28 best infant care practices as determined by the
29 department.

30 (e) Fund.--The Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit Fund is

1 established in the State Treasury and shall be administered by
2 the department. Money appropriated by the General Assembly,
3 interest earned by the fund, penalties and money received from
4 the Federal Government or private sources shall be deposited
5 into the fund.

6 (f) Regulations.--The department may promulgate rules and
7 regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this
8 chapter.

9 (g) Report.--The department shall monitor the quality,
10 appropriateness and effectiveness of the program and issue a
11 report with findings and recommendations to the General Assembly
12 within one year of the effective date of this subsection and
13 annually thereafter.

14 (h) Program operation.--The program shall operate for two
15 years from the date of establishment under subsection (a).

16 Section 2. The Department of Health shall pursue available
17 funding options and make efforts to establish a public-private
18 partnership with organizations to assist in the establishment of
19 the Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit Program and seek and obtain
20 donations for deposit into the Maternal and Newborn Supply Kit
21 Fund established under 35 Pa.C.S. § 8204(e).

22 Section 3. This act shall take effect as follows:

23 (1) Section 2 of this act shall take effect in 60 days.

24 (2) This section shall take effect immediately.

25 (3) The remainder of this act shall take effect in one
26 year.