

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3839

By: Pittman

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to maternal health; providing definitions; directing certain bonuses for certain births; mandating higher reimbursements for certain rural physicians; directing special emphasis on certain patients; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-242.10 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in this act:

1. "High-risk birth" or "high-risk patient" means a pregnant patient has one of the following conditions, including, but not limited to:

- a. thirty-four (34) years of age or older,
- b. preeclampsia,
- c. eclampsia,
- d. embolism,

- e. gestational diabetes,
- f. history of high blood pressure,
- g. history of stroke,
- h. history of miscarriage, and
- i. carrying more than one baby;

2. "Individual health care providers" means including, but not limited to, physicians, obstetricians, and physician assistants;

3. "Operating room team" or "labor room team" means all members of staff working with the mother to deliver her baby, including, but not limited to, the attending physician, physician assistant, anesthesiologist, registered nurse, licensed nurse, nurse midwife, and nurse assistant working for public hospitals and SoonerCare contracted facilities and providers;

4. "Program" means the method of making enhanced payments to individual health care providers or operating room team;

5. "Rural" means all counties of Oklahoma excluding the top five most populous counties according to the most recent decennial census; and

6. "Successful" means the baby is born alive, the mother survives the birth, and neither have significant complications.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-242.11 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

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A. The operating room team of public hospitals and SoonerCare contracted facilities shall each receive a bonus for each successful high-risk birth.

B. Individual health care providers shall receive a bonus for each successful vaginal birth after cesarean section or trial of labor after cesarean section, premature delivery, and primary cesarean section.

C. There shall be higher reimbursements for rural individual health care providers in obstetrics, excluding facilities with ten or more physicians.

D. The bonus program authorized by this act shall also include special emphasis on high-risk patients according to ethnic categories that correlate between the data that has been collected and documented as having the highest maternal and infant mortality rates in the State of Oklahoma by the State Department of Health.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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