

HOUSE BILL 363

By Love

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 33;
Title 37; Title 50; Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71,
relative to mothers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 1, Part 8, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The department shall establish and administer a grant program to assist new mothers.

(b) The department shall utilize existing staff to assist in the implementation of the program and provide grant funding from whatever funding sources available, including, but not limited to, available department funds and funds from the federal, state, county, and municipal governments.

(c) The department shall allocate and disperse funds each fiscal year to community-based, not-for-profit organizations operating in the twenty-five (25) counties with the highest rates of infant and maternal mortality, as determined by the department, that:

- (1) Provide birth control;
- (2) Provide preventive care for pregnant or postpartum women;
- (3) Improve maternal health outcomes,
- (4) Provide new child support;
- (5) Provide child care services;
- (6) Provide monetary assistance for new mothers; or
- (7) Assist postpartum mothers transitioning back into the workforce.

SECTION 2. The department of health is authorized to promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this act. The rules must be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.