

CHAPTER 281

AN ACT

HB 2015

Relating to doulas.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Sections 2 to 4 of this 2017 Act are added to and made a part of ORS chapter 414.

SECTION 2. As used in sections 2 to 4 of this 2017 Act, "doula" means an individual who meets criteria for a doula adopted by the Oregon Health Authority in accordance with ORS 414.665.

SECTION 3. The Oregon Health Authority, in coordination with the Traditional Health Workers Commission, shall in each even-numbered year review, and revise if necessary, any rates of reimbursement for doulas. When reviewing and revising rates of reimbursement, the authority shall consider factors including retention of doulas, access to culturally specific doulas and evidence-based factors and empirical studies related to the cost-effectiveness of services provided by doulas.

SECTION 4. A coordinated care organization shall make information about how to access doula services available on a website operated by or on behalf of the coordinated care organization and shall provide the information in print whenever a printed explanation of benefits is available.

SECTION 5. The Oregon Health Authority shall study potential changes to the medical assistance program that would facilitate making direct payments to doulas for services provided

while continuing to meet any requirements for supervision of a doula by a licensed health care practitioner.

SECTION 6. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall provide to the Oregon Health Policy Board and the Oregon Public Health Advisory Board, and shall make available free of charge on the primary website operated by or on behalf of the authority, a report on the status of doulas in this state. The report must include, but not be limited to, information on:

(a) The number of claims for reimbursement of doulas submitted to the authority and the percentage of those claims that are reimbursed;

(b) Any barriers experienced by doulas to accessing the claims process;

(c) The annual increase or decrease in the number of doulas listed on a registry managed by the authority;

(d) The demographics of the registry of doulas managed by the authority;

(e) Doula training or certification programs offered in this state;

(f) The relationship between the registry of doulas managed by the authority and the perceived doula workforce need; and

(g) Recommendations on achieving cultural specificity goals for doula services.

(2) The authority shall provide the report required by subsection (1) of this section annually beginning on September 15, 2018.

SECTION 7. The Oregon Health Authority shall first perform the review required by section 3 of this 2017 Act in 2020.

SECTION 8. Section 6 of this 2017 Act is repealed on January 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor June 14, 2017

Filed in the office of Secretary of State June 14, 2017

Effective date January 1, 2018