

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2024
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB857

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 07, 2024
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Dungan
One Liner: Create the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Ballard, Cavanaugh, M., Day, Hansen, Hardin, Riepe, Walz
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator George Dungan
Rebecca Wells
Chad Abresch
Ann Anderson-Berry
Mary Kinyoun

Marion Miner
Sandy Danek
Sarah Maresh
Scout Richters
Sara Howard
Marcia Mueting

Representing:

Opening Presenter
Self
Self
NPQIC/Nebraska Medical Association
NE Section of the American College of Obstetrics
and Gynecologists
Nebraska Catholic Conference
Nebraska Right to Life
Nebraska Appleseed
ACLU of Nebraska
First Five Nebraska
Nebraska Pharmacists' Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Sec. 1: The Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program is created within DHHS. The purpose of the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program is to reduce the incidence of low birth weight, pre-term birth, and adverse birth outcomes. This program will also address other lifestyle, behavioral, and non-medical aspects of an at-risk mother's life that may affect the health and well-being of the mother of the child.



Sec. 2: At risk mother is defined as a woman who is Medicaid or CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program) eligible; pregnant or in postpartum period; and determined by her health care provider to be at risk of having a negative maternal or infant health outcome. Postpartum period means the 12 month period after the birth of the child.

Services eligible for reimbursement for at-risk mothers include, but are not limited to, nutrition counseling, psychosocial counseling and support, general client education and health promotion, breastfeeding support, and targeted case management.

Sec. 3: DHHS may reimburse eligible services for the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program for at-risk mothers at an enhanced rate. Also, DHHS is required to file a state plan amendment or waiver, no later than October 1, 2024, to implement this program.

Sec. 4: DHHS is required to electronically submit a report to the Legislature on or before December 15 of each year. The report shall include the number of mothers served, the services offered, and the birth outcomes for each mother served.

Explanation of amendments:

The standing committee amendment, AM2409, strikes the original provisions of the bill and inserts the following new provisions:

Section 1: At-risk mother is defined as a woman who is Medicaid eligible (not CHIP eligible as in the original bill), pregnant, and determined by her health care provider to be at risk of having a negative maternal or infant health outcome.

A definition of targeted case management is provided. Targeted case management has the same meaning as in federal regulations and may only be delivered in a clinical setting by a health care provider.

Sec. 2: The Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program is created within DHHS. The purpose of this program is to reduce the incidence of low birth weight, pre-term birth, and adverse birth outcomes while also addressing other lifestyle, behavioral, and non-medical aspects of an at-risk mother's life that may affect the health and well-being of the mother or the child.

Sec. 3: Services eligible for reimbursement for at-risk mothers under this program, include, but are not limited to: 6 or fewer sessions of nutrition counseling (narrowed down from the original bill); psychosocial counseling and support;



breastfeeding support; and targeted case management.

Sec. 4: DHHS may reimburse eligible services for this program for at-risk mothers at an enhanced rate and file a state plan amendment or waiver, as necessary, no later than October 1, 2024, to implement the program.

Sec. 5: DHHS is required to electronically submit a report to the Legislature on or before December 15, 2024, on the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program which includes the number of mothers served, services offered, and birth outcomes for each mother served.

Sec. 6: It is the intent of the Legislature to use the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund to fund the services under the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program.

Sec. 7: Adds the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program to the use of the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund.

Ben Hansen, Chairperson

