

1 H.500

2 Introduced by Representatives Till of Jericho, Demrow of Corinth, Lippert of
3 Hinesburg, Macaig of Williston, Masland of Thetford, Sullivan
4 of Burlington, and Yacovone of Morristown

5 Referred to Committee on

6 Date:

7 Subject: Human services; home visiting; parenting classes

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish a
9 universal home visiting program for families caring for a newborn infant and
10 parenting classes within obstetric and midwifery practices.

11 An act relating to universal home visiting and parenting classes

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 3404 is added to read:

14 § 3404. UNIVERSAL HOME VISITING PROGRAM

15 (a) The Director of Trauma Prevention and Resilience Development, in
16 consultation with interested stakeholders, shall develop and implement a
17 statewide program that ensures universal home visiting services to families
18 caring for a newborn infant. The Director shall initially conduct an assessment
19 of home visiting services provided in each district of the State to determine

1 where there are unmet needs and which evidence- and research-based home
2 visiting model or models are appropriate.

3 (b) On or before January 15, 2022 and every two years thereafter, the
4 Director shall report to the House Committee on Human Services and to the
5 Senate Committee on Health and Welfare with his or her findings and
6 recommendations related to the effectiveness of the universal home visiting
7 program.

8 Sec. 2. PARENTING CLASSES; APPROPRIATION

9 The sum of \$100,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the
10 Agency of Human Services in fiscal year 2020 to provide grants for up to three
11 parent-child centers in the State for the creation of pilot programs offering
12 parenting classes. The classes shall be conducted in the offices of health care
13 professionals providing obstetric or midwifery care and shall use the
14 parent-child centers' own curriculum. The purpose of the pilot programs shall
15 be to interrupt the widespread, multigenerational problem of childhood trauma
16 and its subsequent severe related health problems.

17 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.