

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18

H.778

Introduced by Representatives Pugh of South Burlington and Brumsted of
Shelburne

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Human services; maternal and child health; home visiting

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to appropriate
funds for the development of a system for the delivery of home visiting
services.

An act relating to home visiting services

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

Sec. 1. PURPOSE

In recognition of the significant contribution home visiting services make
with regard to family stability, family health, and child development; fostering
parenting skills; reducing child maltreatment; promoting social and emotional
health; improving school readiness; and promoting economic self-sufficiency,
the General Assembly seeks to ensure that home visiting services are available
to all Vermonters in need of this service.

1 Sec. 2. 33 V.S.A. § 3404 is added to read:

2 § 3404. HOME VISITING SERVICES

3 (a) As used in this section, “home visiting services” means regular,
4 voluntary visits with a pregnant woman or a family with a young child for the
5 purpose of providing a continuum of services that improves maternal and child
6 health; prevents child injuries, abuse, or maltreatment; promotes social and
7 emotional health; improves school readiness; reduces crime or domestic
8 violence; improves economic self-sufficiency; or enhances coordination and
9 referrals among community resources and supports, such as food, housing, and
10 transportation.

11 (b)(1) The Secretary of Human Services, in consultation with interested
12 providers of home visiting services and other stakeholders, shall develop a
13 system for the delivery of home visiting services throughout Vermont.

14 (2) The system shall address the following:

15 (A) sustainable funding for home visiting services for all Medicaid
16 families in need of home visiting services;

17 (B) home visiting services that can respond to diverse family needs;

18 (C) home visiting service provider training and supervision;

19 (D) a structure for coordinating services at the State and local levels
20 with respect to outreach efforts, family intake methods, referrals, and
21 transitions; and

1 (E) performance evaluation and quality improvement measures,
2 including mechanisms for tracking, funding, utilization, and outcomes for
3 families and children at the State, local, and program levels.

4 Sec. 3. APPROPRIATION

5 In fiscal year 2021, \$1,000,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to
6 the Agency of Human Services for the purpose of implementing sustainable
7 home visiting services for all Medicaid families in need of these services.

8 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

9 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.