
This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 50 (S.53). An act relating to certification of community-based perinatal doulas and Medicaid coverage for doula services

Subjects: Medicaid; certification; professions and occupations; Office of Professional Regulation; community-based perinatal doulas

This act creates a voluntary certification process for community-based perinatal doulas through the Office of Professional Regulation and establishes a \$75.00 application fee for certification, with a \$120.00 biennial renewal fee. The act requires the Department of Vermont Health Access to reimburse certified community-based perinatal doulas for providing direct emotional and physical support and educational and informational services to Medicaid beneficiaries during pregnancy, labor and delivery, and the postpartum period. The act expresses legislative intent that the reimbursement rates should be reasonable and adequate for the services provided and be consistent with the rates set by other states' Medicaid programs and it directs the Department to seek a state plan amendment from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services by July 1, 2026, to allow Vermont Medicaid to cover doula services.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on June 9, 2025