

HB 58 -- PERINATAL CARE (Haefner)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy

The bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to seek broad public and stakeholder input during multiple hearings in diverse geographic regions of the state and then establish criteria for levels of maternal care designations and levels of neonatal care designations for birthing facilities based on specified criteria.

Nothing in these provisions must be construed in any way to modify or expand the licensure of any health care professional or to require a patient be transferred to a different facility.

Beginning January 1, 2019, any hospital with a birthing facility must report to the department its appropriate level of maternal care designation and neonatal care designation as determined by the criteria specified under these provisions.

The bill permits the department to partner with appropriate nationally recognized professional organizations with demonstrated expertise in maternal and neonatal standards of care to administer these provisions.

The criteria for levels of maternal and neonatal care developed under the provisions of the bill must not include pregnancy termination or counseling or referral for pregnancy termination.