

1 **Pregnancy and Infant Loss Amendments**
 2026 GENERAL SESSION
 STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Ryan D. Wilcox
 Senate Sponsor:

2
 3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill addresses pregnancy and infant loss.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

- 8 ▶ recognizes October as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month;
- 9 ▶ requires the Division of Licensing and Background Checks, with the Office of Maternal
 10 and Child Health, to establish rules and procedures for a health care facility that
 11 provides birthing services when an individual experiences a pregnancy or infant loss; and
- 12 ▶ requires the Division of Professional Licensing, with the Department of Health and
 13 Human Services, to develop a required training for certain health care professionals on
 14 supporting an individual experiencing a pregnancy or infant loss.

15 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

16 None

17 **Other Special Clauses:**

18 None

19 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

20 **AMENDS:**

21 **63G-1-401**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 351

22 **ENACTS:**

23 **26B-2-244**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

24 **58-1-605**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

26 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

27 Section 1. Section **26B-2-244** is enacted to read:

28 **26B-2-244 . Bereavement practices in health care facilities that provide birthing**
 29 **services.**

30 (1) The division, in collaboration with the Office of Maternal and Child Health, shall

31 establish rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative
32 Rulemaking Act, regarding required practices when an individual experiences a
33 pregnancy or infant loss at a health care facility that provides birthing services, to ensure
34 that the individual experiencing the loss is treated with dignity and compassion.

35 (2) Required practices described in Subsection (1) may include:

36 (a) opportunities for a parent to have memory-making experiences, such as photos, hand
37 and foot molds, keepsakes, or written materials;

38 (b) access to grief counseling;

39 (c) procedures when a loss is anticipated before birth;

40 (d) referrals to or collaboration with organizations that provide support or resources for
41 parents experiencing a loss;

42 (e) access to a perinatal cooling device; or

43 (f) permitting a parent sufficient time and space with the parent's infant.

44 (3) The division shall require compliance with the policies and rules developed in
45 accordance with this section as a condition of initial licensure or licensure renewal for a
46 facility that provides birthing services.

47 Section 2. Section **58-1-605** is enacted to read:

48 **58-1-605 . Required bereavement training.**

49 (1)(a) The division, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services,
50 shall develop a training to educate health care providers on best practices for
51 supporting patients and families experiencing pregnancy or infant loss.

52 (b) The training shall be for providers, but may incorporate rules and procedures relating
53 to pregnancy and infant loss for health care facilities described in Section 26B-2-244.

54 (2) The division shall establish rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
55 Administrative Rulemaking Act, requiring licensed health care professionals that work
56 in emergency care, obstetrics and gynecology, and labor and delivery settings to
57 complete the bereavement training.

58 Section 3. Section **63G-1-401** is amended to read:

59 **63G-1-401 . Commemorative periods.**

60 (1) As used in this section, "commemorative period" means a special observance declared
61 by the governor that annually recognizes and honors a culturally or historically
62 significant day, week, month, or other time period in the state.

63 (2)(a) The governor may declare a commemorative period by issuing a declaration.

64 (b) The governor shall maintain a list of all commemorative periods declared by the

65 governor.

66 (3)(a) The governor's declaration of a commemorative period expires the year
67 immediately following the day on which the governor issues the declaration.

68 (b) Subsection (3)(a) does not prevent the governor from redeclaring a commemorative
69 period before or after the commemorative period expires.

70 (4) Notwithstanding Subsections (2) and (3), the following days shall be commemorated
71 annually:

72 (a) Utah History Day at the Capitol, on the Friday immediately following the fourth
73 Monday in January, to encourage citizens of the state, including students, to
74 participate in activities that recognize Utah's history;

75 (b) Day of Remembrance for Incarceration of Japanese Americans, on February 19, in
76 remembrance of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II;

77 (c) Utah State Flag Day, on March 9;

78 (d) Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day, on March 29;

79 (e) Utah Railroad Workers Day, on May 10;

80 (f) Dandy-Walker Syndrome Awareness Day, on May 11;

81 (g) Armed Forces Day, on the third Saturday in May, in honor of men and women who
82 are serving or have served in the United States Armed Forces around the world in
83 defense of freedom;

84 (h) Arthrogyrosis Multiplex Congenita Awareness Day, on June 30;

85 (i) Navajo Code Talker Day, on August 14;

86 (j) Rachael Runyan/Missing and Exploited Children's Day, on August 26, the
87 anniversary of the day three-year-old Rachael Runyan was kidnaped from a
88 playground in Sunset, Utah, to:

89 (i) encourage individuals to make child safety a priority;

90 (ii) remember the importance of continued efforts to reunite missing children with
91 their families; and

92 (iii) honor Rachael Runyan and all Utah children who have been abducted or
93 exploited;

94 (k) September 11th Day of Remembrance, on September 11, in honor and remembrance
95 of the first responders and persons killed and injured in the terrorist attacks on
96 September 11, 2001;

97 (l) Constitution Day, on September 17, to invite all Utah adults and Utah school children
98 to read directly from the United States Constitution and other primary sources, and

- 99 for students to be taught principles from the United States Constitution that include
100 federalism, checks and balances, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, limited
101 government, and the necessary and proper, commerce, and supremacy clauses;
- 102 (m) POW/MIA Recognition Day, on the third Friday in September;
- 103 (n) Victims of Communism Memorial Day, on November 7;
- 104 (o) Indigenous People Day, on the Monday immediately preceding Thanksgiving; and
- 105 (p) Bill of Rights Day, on December 15.
- 106 (5) The Department of Veterans and Military Affairs shall coordinate activities, special
107 programs, and promotional information to heighten public awareness and involvement
108 relating to Subsections (4)(g) and (m).
- 109 (6) The month of April shall be commemorated annually as Clean Out the Medicine
110 Cabinet Month to:
- 111 (a) recognize the urgent need to make Utah homes and neighborhoods safe from
112 prescription medication abuse and poisonings by the proper home storage and
113 disposal of prescription and over-the-counter medications; and
- 114 (b) educate citizens about the permanent medication disposal sites in Utah listed on
115 useonlyasdirected.org that allow disposal throughout the year.
- 116 (7) The second full week of April shall be commemorated annually as Animal Care and
117 Control Appreciation Week to recognize and increase awareness within the community
118 of the services that animal care and control professionals provide.
- 119 (8) The first full week of May shall be commemorated annually as State Water Week to
120 recognize the importance of water conservation, quality, and supply in the state.
- 121 (9) The third full week of June shall be commemorated annually as Workplace Safety
122 Week to heighten public awareness regarding the importance of safety in the workplace.
- 123 (10) The second Friday and Saturday in August shall be commemorated annually as Utah
124 Fallen Heroes Days to:
- 125 (a) honor fallen heroes who, during service in the military or public safety, have
126 sacrificed their lives to protect the country and the citizens of the state; and
- 127 (b) encourage political subdivisions to acknowledge and honor fallen heroes.
- 128 (11) The third full week in August shall be commemorated annually as Drowsy Driving
129 Awareness Week to:
- 130 (a) educate the public about the relationship between fatigue and driving performance;
131 and
- 132 (b) encourage the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation to

- 133 recognize and promote educational efforts on the dangers of drowsy driving.
- 134 (12) The month of September shall be commemorated annually as American Founders and
135 Constitution Month to:
- 136 (a) encourage all civic, fraternal, and religious organizations, and public and private
137 educational institutions, to recognize and observe this occasion through appropriate
138 programs, teaching, meetings, services, or celebrations in which state, county, and
139 local governmental officials are invited to participate; and
- 140 (b) invite all Utah school children to read directly from the United States Constitution
141 and other primary sources, and to be taught principles from the United States
142 Constitution that include federalism, checks and balances, separation of powers,
143 popular sovereignty, limited government, and the necessary and proper, commerce,
144 and supremacy clauses.
- 145 (13) The third full week of September shall be commemorated annually as Gang Prevention
146 Awareness Week.
- 147 (14) The month of October shall be commemorated annually as: [-]
- 148 (a) Italian-American Heritage Month[-] ; and
- 149 (b) Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month to:
- 150 (i) organize and participate in activities that support grieving families;
- 151 (ii) disseminate information to raise public awareness about pregnancy and infant
152 loss;
- 153 (iii) advocate for research and programs to reduce pregnancy and infant loss;
- 154 (iv) promote awareness campaigns regarding pregnancy and infant loss; and
- 155 (v) provide educational materials and resources to families and health care providers.
- 156 (15) The month of November shall be commemorated annually as American Indian
157 Heritage Month.
- 158 (16) The first full week of December shall be commemorated annually as Avalanche
159 Awareness Week to:
- 160 (a) educate the public about avalanche awareness and safety;
- 161 (b) encourage collaborative efforts to decrease annual avalanche accidents and fatalities;
162 and
- 163 (c) honor Utah residents who have lost their lives in avalanches, including those who
164 lost their lives working to prevent avalanches.

165 Section 4. **Effective Date.**

166 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.