

**MEDICAID DOULA SERVICES**

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Luz Escamilla**

House Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill authorizes the Medicaid program to cover doula services.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ requires the Department of Health and Human Services (department) to apply for a Medicaid state plan amendment authorizing coverage of doula services;
- ▶ requires the department to develop the state plan amendment in consultation with certain stakeholders;
- ▶ requires the Medicaid program to cover doula services if the state plan amendment is approved; and
- ▶ requires the department to establish training and registration requirements for doulas providing services to Medicaid program enrollees.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

ENACTS:

**26B-3-229**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

Section 1. Section **26B-3-229** is enacted to read:

**26B-3-229. Doula services.**

(1) As used in this section, "doula services" means non-medical advice, information, emotional support, and physical comfort provided to an individual during the individual's pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum period.

(2) (a) Before October 1, 2024, the department shall apply for a Medicaid state plan amendment to cover doula services.

(b) The department shall develop the state plan amendment in consultation with individuals representing patients, doulas, physicians, nurses, and health care facilities in the state.

(3) If the state plan amendment is approved, the Medicaid program shall provide coverage of doula services.

(4) The department shall establish by rules made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, training and registration requirements for a doula providing doula services to an enrollee.

Section 2. **Effective date.**

This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.