

PROPOSED

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.B. 2658

(Reference to House engrossed bill)

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

2 "Section 1. Department of health services; nurse-home visitor
3 grant program; requirements; annual report;
4 delayed repeal

5 A. The nurse-home visitor grant program is established in the
6 department of health services. The department shall award the grant monies
7 to at least one eligible organization to provide nurse-home visiting
8 services for a three-year period, including assessments and screenings,
9 care coordination, case management, preventive education and counseling,
10 nurse-delivered interventions and referrals to health and human services,
11 educational or job development resources, and other appropriate supports,
12 to first-time, low-income, expectant mothers who voluntarily enroll before
13 the third trimester. The nurse-home visiting services shall be available
14 through the second birthday of children born to participating new mothers.

15 B. Organizations that are eligible to receive a grant pursuant to
16 this section include public or private entities, nonprofit organizations,
17 county or other local government entities and tribal nations.

18 C. When determining which organizations shall be awarded monies
19 through the grant program, the department shall give preference to
20 organizations that meet all of the following:

21 1. Are working and providing services in this state.

22 2. Can demonstrate either delivery as of December 31, 2021 or
23 capacity to begin delivery, within ninety days after receiving the grant
24 award, of a service delivered by registered nurses that meets the criteria

1 established by the United States department of health and human services
2 for an evidence-based early childhood home visiting service delivery model.

3 3. Limit program enrollees to first-time expectant mothers who
4 voluntarily enroll before twenty-eight weeks of their pregnancy.

5 4. Provide services to program enrollees and their children from
6 early prenatal enrollment through the child's second birthday.

7 5. Employ nurses that have received a bachelor of science in nursing
8 degree or higher to provide services.

9 6. Provide services in the enrollee's home, via telehealth or at
10 another location as directed by the enrollee.

11 D. An organization that receives monies pursuant to this section
12 shall submit to the department of health services data prescribed by the
13 department, which may include client demographic information, regarding
14 services and referrals that meet performance benchmarks developed by the
15 United States health resources and services administration for
16 evidence-based nurse-home visiting that addresses all of the following:

- 17 1. Improvements in maternal and newborn health.
- 18 2. Reduction of child injuries, child maltreatment and emergency
19 department visits for accidental injuries.
- 20 3. Improvements in school readiness and achievement.
- 21 4. Reduction of crime or domestic violence.
- 22 5. Improvements in family economic self-sufficiency.
- 23 6. Improvements in coordinating and referring other community
24 resources and supports.

25 E. The nurse-home visiting services delivered under the grant
26 program shall be delivered:

- 27 1. To voluntary participants with their consent.
- 28 2. In a location and method preferred by participants, which may
29 include in the participant's home, via telehealth or in another nonclinical
30 setting.

1 F. On or before February 1, 2023 and each year thereafter, the
2 department shall report to the appropriations committees of the senate and
3 the house of representatives all of the following:

4 1. The number of grants awarded under the program, the recipient
5 organizations and number of participants expected to be served.

6 2. The number of participants newly enrolled.

7 3. The extent to which each grant recipient made monthly visits to
8 enrolled participants.

9 4. Other data and information related to measures of health and
10 well-being of participants and their children participating in the program.

11 G. This section does not prevent the department from identifying
12 performance measures consistent with those reported by the department to
13 the United States health resources and services administration for delivery
14 of evidence-based nurse-home visiting services supported in whole or in
15 part by federal maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting
16 services.

17 H. This section is repealed from and after June 30, 2026.

18 Sec. 2. Appropriations: department of health services:
19 nurse-home visitor grant program; exemption

20 A. The sum of \$2,300,000 is appropriated from the state general fund
21 in each of fiscal years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 to the
22 department of health services for the purposes of administering the
23 nurse-home visitor grant program for the delivery of evidence-based
24 nurse-home visiting services.

25 B. The appropriations made in subsection A of this section are
26 exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes,
27 relating to lapsing of appropriations. Any unspent monies remaining on
28 July 1, 2026 shall revert to the state general fund.

29 Sec. 3. Legislative findings and intent

30 The legislature finds that new mothers, in order to adequately care
31 for their newborns and young children, often benefit from voluntarily
32 receiving professional assistance and information. Without this assistance

1 and information, a first-time mother may develop habits or practices that
2 are detrimental to her health and well-being and to the health and
3 well-being of her child. The legislature further finds that inadequate
4 prenatal care and inadequate care in infancy and early childhood often
5 inhibit a child's ability to learn and develop throughout childhood and may
6 have lasting, adverse effects on the child's ability to function as an
7 adult. The legislature recognizes that the implementation of a United
8 States department of health and human services-accredited evidenced-based
9 nurse-home visiting program for first-time mothers, which is ranked as
10 "well-supported" in the federal title IV-E prevention services
11 clearinghouse for in-home parent skill-based services under the family
12 first prevention services act as of January 1, 2022, provides educational,
13 health and other resources for first-time mothers from early pregnancy
14 through the first two years of their infants' lives and has been proven to
15 significantly reduce the risk of preterm birth, the amount of drug use,
16 including nicotine and alcohol use, and abuse by first-time mothers, the
17 occurrence of criminal activity committed by mothers and their children
18 under fifteen years of age, and the number of reported incidents of child
19 abuse and neglect. The program has also been proven to reduce the mother's
20 need for other forms of public assistance and to increase the mother's
21 educational attainment and employment."

22 Amend title to conform

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C: MH