

**California Department of Health Care Services
Proposed Trailer Bill Legislation**

Delayed Suspension of Medi-Cal Postpartum Care Extension

FACT SHEET

Title: Delayed Suspension of Medi-Cal Postpartum Care Extension. The proposed statutory changes delay the suspension of Medi-Cal postpartum extended eligibility by 12 months to December 31, 2022.

Background: Pursuant to federal requirements, the Medi-Cal Program offers eligible beneficiaries coverage for pregnancy and pregnancy-related services as well as postpartum care. Services include prenatal care, labor, delivery, care after delivery, family planning services, care related to pregnancy loss and services for conditions that might complicate the pregnancy. Additionally, mental health services are also included in the coverage. Previously, due to income limitations and other eligibility factors, postpartum care would terminate 60 days after the last day of pregnancy.

SB 104 (Chapter 67, Statutes of 2019) extended Medi-Cal postpartum care for up to 12 months after the last day of the pregnancy to an eligible individual who is receiving pregnancy-related services and is diagnosed with a mental health condition.

Justification: Existing state law requires the expansion of provisional postpartum care to be suspended on December 31, 2021, unless the estimates of General Fund revenues and expenditures exceed the projected annual General Fund expenditures in the 2021–22 fiscal year and the 2022–23 fiscal year by the sum total of the General Fund money appropriated for all programs suspended pursuant to the 2019 Budget Act.

Specifically, DHCS proposes to amend the Welfare and Institutions Code section 14005.18 to extend the expansion of the provisional postpartum care from December 31, 2021 to December 31, 2022.

Summary of Arguments:

- Allows beneficiaries who receive pregnancy-related services, and are diagnosed with a mental health condition, to remain eligible for Medi-Cal postpartum care for up to 12 months after the last day of the pregnancy.

Estimate Issue # and Title: Regular Policy Change Number 11, Provisional Postpartum Care Extension