

CHAPTER 498

AN ACT concerning hospital emergency departments and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.26:2H-12.88 Hospital emergency department to inquire about pregnancy history of certain patients.

1. Each hospital licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.) that has an emergency department shall establish standards and protocols to ensure that each person of childbearing age who presents at the emergency department is asked whether the person had a pregnancy that ended within the past 365 days, including any pregnancy that ended by live birth, stillbirth, miscarriage, or abortion. In the event that a person indicates the person had a pregnancy that ended within the past 365 days, the hospital shall ensure that any care or treatment provided includes an evaluation of potential complications that may have resulted from the pregnancy or the end of the pregnancy. If the person is unresponsive at the time of presentation, the hospital shall make the inquiry as soon as the person becomes responsive or by making appropriate inquiries of individuals who may have knowledge of the person's current or recent pregnancy status.

C.26:2H-12.89 Rules, regulations.

2. The Commissioner of Health shall, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), adopt rules and regulations as shall be necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 21, 2020.