

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1823
Version:	Engrossed
Request Number:	
Author:	Stanley (S), Roe (H)
Date:	4/30/2020
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

SB 1823 creates Shepherd's Law requiring that those practicing midwifery be licensed by the State Department of Health. The act defines midwifery as care provided during pregnancy, delivery, and postpartum. The act does not apply to Certified Nurse-Midwives, physicians, other licensed health care professionals, student midwives, or natural childbirth educators.

The Department is directed to promulgate rules for licensure, including determining scope of practice, a formulary of prescription drugs midwives may administer, procedures for obtaining informed consent, qualifications, continuing education requirements, penalties, and fees. Applicants must be certified by either the North American Registry of Midwives or the American Midwifery Certification Board. Application fees may not exceed \$1,000 and licenses will be valid for three years. The Department is directed to maintain a public list of licensed midwives.

Practicing midwives must provide disclosure to potential clients containing information related to their credentials, malpractice insurance, and plan for emergency or complication, including the selection of a hospital. Midwives must advise medical consultation for women at risk for complicated pregnancy or delivery. Physicians or Certified Nurse-Midwives directing midwives are immune for liability if the midwife fails to comply with the order.

Lastly, the act creates the Advisory Committee on Midwifery, which is directed to advise in the formulation of regulatory rules. The Advisory Committee's membership will consist of health care providers knowledgeable in midwifery. The Advisory Committee will sunset in 2026.

Prepared By: Anna Rouw

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: Mark Tygret

Other Considerations

None.

