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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

Introduced By: Senators Mack, Vargas, Kallman, Murray, Lauria, Acosta, Urso,  
Valverde, Quezada, and DiMario

Date Introduced: February 26, 2025

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 27-18 of the General Laws entitled "Accident and Sickness Insurance  
2 Policies" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **27-18-95. Certified professional midwife.**

4 (a) As used in this section, "certified professional midwife" or "CPM" means a trained  
5 professional who has successfully completed an accredited educational program in midwifery,  
6 holds a current certification as a certified professional midwife by the North American Registry of  
7 Midwives (hereinafter referred to in this section as "NARM"), and is licensed to practice midwifery  
8 in accordance with § 23-13-9.

9 (b) Every individual or group health insurance contract, or every individual or group  
10 hospital or medical expense insurance policy, plan, or group policy delivered, issued for delivery,  
11 or renewed in this state on or after January 1, 2026, shall provide coverage for the services of a  
12 certified professional midwife in accordance with each health insurers' respective principles and  
13 mechanisms of reimbursement, credentialing, and contracting, if the services are within the  
14 certified professional midwife's area of professional competence as defined by the standard  
15 developed and maintained by the Midwives Alliance of North America (hereinafter referred to in  
16 this section as "MANA") in collaboration with the department of health, and are currently  
17 reimbursed when rendered by any other healthcare provider. No insurer or hospital or medical  
18 service corporation may require supervision, signature, or referral by any other healthcare provider  
19 as a condition of reimbursement, except when those requirements are also applicable to other

1 categories of healthcare providers. No insurer or hospital or medical service corporation or patient  
2 shall be required to pay for duplicate services actually rendered by both a licensed certified  
3 professional midwife and any other healthcare provider.

4 (c) Every individual or group health insurance contract, or every individual or group  
5 hospital or medical expense insurance policy, plan, or group policy delivered, issued for delivery,  
6 or renewed in this state that is required to cover certified professional midwife services defined in  
7 subsections (a) and (b) of this section, shall report utilization and cost information related to  
8 licensed certified professional midwife's services to the office of the health insurance  
9 commissioner on or before July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter. The office of the health  
10 insurance commissioner shall define the utilization and cost information required to be reported.

11 (d) This section shall not apply to insurance coverage providing benefits for:

12 (1) Hospital confinement indemnity;

13 (2) Disability income;

14 (3) Accident only;

15 (4) Long-term care;

16 (5) Medicare supplement;

17 (6) Limited benefit health;

18 (7) Specified disease indemnity;

19 (8) Sickness or bodily injury or death by accident or both; and

20 (9) Other limited benefit policies.

21 (e) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, unless otherwise specified,  
22 the provisions of this chapter shall supersede and shall control over any conflicting or inconsistent  
23 laws, including general laws, special laws, or local laws, or any rule or regulation of the state  
24 including, but not limited to, §§ 23-13-9, 27-41-2(21), 27-41-36 or any other state rule or  
25 regulation.

26 SECTION 2. Chapter 27-19 of the General Laws entitled "Nonprofit Hospital Service  
27 Corporations" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

28 **27-19-87. Certified professional midwife.**

29 (a) As used in this section, "certified professional midwife" or "CPM" means a trained  
30 professional who has successfully completed an accredited educational program in midwifery,  
31 holds a current certification as a certified professional midwife by the North American Registry of  
32 Midwives (hereinafter referred to in this section as "NARM"), and is licensed to practice midwifery  
33 in accordance with § 23-13-9.

34 (b) Every individual or group health insurance contract, or every individual or group

1 hospital or medical expense insurance policy, plan, or group policy delivered, issued for delivery,  
2 or renewed in this state on or after January 1, 2026, shall provide coverage for the services of a  
3 certified professional midwife in accordance with each health insurers' respective principles and  
4 mechanisms of reimbursement, credentialing, and contracting, if the services are within the  
5 certified professional midwife's area of professional competence as defined by the standard  
6 developed and maintained by the Midwives Alliance of North America (hereinafter referred to in  
7 this section as "MANA") in collaboration with the department of health, and are currently  
8 reimbursed when rendered by any other healthcare provider. No insurer or hospital or medical  
9 service corporation may require supervision, signature, or referral by any other healthcare provider  
10 as a condition of reimbursement, except when those requirements are also applicable to other  
11 categories of healthcare providers. No insurer or hospital or medical service corporation or patient  
12 shall be required to pay for duplicate services actually rendered by both a licensed certified  
13 professional midwife and any other healthcare provider.

14 (c) Every individual or group health insurance contract, or every individual or group  
15 hospital or medical expense insurance policy, plan, or group policy delivered, issued for delivery,  
16 or renewed in this state that is required to cover certified professional midwife services defined in  
17 subsections (a) and (b) of this section, shall report utilization and cost information related to  
18 licensed certified professional midwife's services to the office of the health insurance  
19 commissioner on or before July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter. The office of the health  
20 insurance commissioner shall define the utilization and cost information required to be reported.

21 (d) This section shall not apply to insurance coverage providing benefits for:

22 (1) Hospital confinement indemnity;

23 (2) Disability income;

24 (3) Accident only;

25 (4) Long-term care;

26 (5) Medicare supplement;

27 (6) Limited benefit health;

28 (7) Specified disease indemnity;

29 (8) Sickness or bodily injury or death by accident or both; and

30 (9) Other limited benefit policies.

31 (e) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, unless otherwise specified,  
32 the provisions of this chapter shall supersede and shall control over any conflicting or inconsistent  
33 laws, including general laws, special laws, or local laws, or any rule or regulation of the state  
34 including, but not limited, to §§ 23-13-9, 27-41-2(21), 27-41-36 or any other state rule or

1 [regulation.](#)

2 SECTION 3. Chapter 27-20 of the General Laws entitled "Nonprofit Medical Service  
3 Corporations" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

4 **27-20-83. Certified professional midwife.**

5 [\(a\) As used in this section, "certified professional midwife" or "CPM" means a trained](#)  
6 [professional who has successfully completed an accredited educational program in midwifery,](#)  
7 [holds a current certification as a certified professional midwife by the North American Registry of](#)  
8 [Midwives \(hereinafter referred to in this section as "NARM"\), and is licensed to practice midwifery](#)  
9 [in accordance with § 23-13-9.](#)

10 [\(b\) Every individual or group health insurance contract, or every individual or group](#)  
11 [hospital or medical expense insurance policy, plan, or group policy delivered, issued for delivery,](#)  
12 [or renewed in this state on or after January 1, 2026, shall provide coverage for the services of a](#)  
13 [certified professional midwife in accordance with each health insurers' respective principles and](#)  
14 [mechanisms of reimbursement, credentialing, and contracting, if the services are within the](#)  
15 [certified professional midwife's area of professional competence as defined by the standard](#)  
16 [developed and maintained by the Midwives Alliance of North America \(hereinafter referred to in](#)  
17 [this section as "MANA"\) in collaboration with the department of health, and are currently](#)  
18 [reimbursed when rendered by any other healthcare provider. No insurer or hospital or medical](#)  
19 [service corporation may require supervision, signature, or referral by any other healthcare provider](#)  
20 [as a condition of reimbursement, except when those requirements are also applicable to other](#)  
21 [categories of healthcare providers. No insurer or hospital or medical service corporation or patient](#)  
22 [shall be required to pay for duplicate services actually rendered by both a licensed certified](#)  
23 [professional midwife and any other healthcare provider.](#)

24 [\(c\) Every individual or group health insurance contract, or every individual or group](#)  
25 [hospital or medical expense insurance policy, plan, or group policy delivered, issued for delivery,](#)  
26 [or renewed in this state that is required to cover certified professional midwife services defined in](#)  
27 [subsections \(a\) and \(b\) of this section, shall report utilization and cost information related to](#)  
28 [licensed certified professional midwife's services to the office of the health insurance](#)  
29 [commissioner on or before July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter. The office of the health](#)  
30 [insurance commissioner shall define the utilization and cost information required to be reported.](#)

31 [\(d\) This section shall not apply to insurance coverage providing benefits for:](#)

32 [\(1\) Hospital confinement indemnity;](#)

33 [\(2\) Disability income;](#)

34 [\(3\) Accident only;](#)

- 1           (4) Long-term care;
- 2           (5) Medicare supplement;
- 3           (6) Limited benefit health;
- 4           (7) Specified disease indemnity;
- 5           (8) Sickness or bodily injury or death by accident or both; and
- 6           (9) Other limited benefit policies.

7           (e) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, unless otherwise specified,  
8 the provisions of this chapter shall supersede and shall control over any conflicting or inconsistent  
9 laws, including general laws, special laws, or local laws, or any rule or regulation of the state  
10 including, but not limited, to §§ 23-13-9, 27-41-2(21), 27-41-36 or any other state rule or  
11 regulation.

12           SECTION 4. Chapter 27-41 of the General Laws entitled "Health Maintenance  
13 Organizations" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

14           **27-41-100. Certified professional midwife.**

15           (a) As used in this section, "certified professional midwife" or "CPM" means a trained  
16 professional who has successfully completed an accredited educational program in midwifery,  
17 holds a current certification as a certified professional midwife by the North American Registry of  
18 Midwives (hereinafter referred to in this section as "NARM"), and is licensed to practice midwifery  
19 in accordance with § 23-13-9.

20           (b) Every individual or group health insurance contract, or every individual or group  
21 hospital or medical expense insurance policy, plan, or group policy delivered, issued for delivery,  
22 or renewed in this state on or after January 1, 2026, shall provide coverage for the services of a  
23 certified professional midwife in accordance with each health insurers' respective principles and  
24 mechanisms of reimbursement, credentialing, and contracting, if the services are within the  
25 certified professional midwife's area of professional competence as defined by the standard  
26 developed and maintained by the Midwives Alliance of North America (hereinafter referred to in  
27 this section as "MANA") in collaboration with the department of health, and are currently  
28 reimbursed when rendered by any other healthcare provider. No insurer or hospital or medical  
29 service corporation may require supervision, signature, or referral by any other healthcare provider  
30 as a condition of reimbursement, except when those requirements are also applicable to other  
31 categories of healthcare providers. No insurer or hospital or medical service corporation or patient  
32 shall be required to pay for duplicate services actually rendered by both a licensed certified  
33 professional midwife and any other healthcare provider.

34           (c) Every individual or group health insurance contract, or every individual or group

1 hospital or medical expense insurance policy, plan, or group policy delivered, issued for delivery,  
2 or renewed in this state that is required to cover certified professional midwife services defined in  
3 subsections (a) and (b) of this section, shall report utilization and cost information related to  
4 licensed certified professional midwife's services to the office of the health insurance  
5 commissioner on or before July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter. The office of the health  
6 insurance commissioner shall define the utilization and cost information required to be reported.

7 (d) This section shall not apply to insurance coverage providing benefits for:

8 (1) Hospital confinement indemnity;

9 (2) Disability income;

10 (3) Accident only;

11 (4) Long-term care;

12 (5) Medicare supplement;

13 (6) Limited benefit health;

14 (7) Specified disease indemnity;

15 (8) Sickness or bodily injury or death by accident or both; and

16 (9) Other limited benefit policies.

17 (e) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the provisions of this  
18 chapter shall supersede and shall control over any conflicting or inconsistent laws, including  
19 general laws, special laws, or local laws, or any rule or regulation of the state including, but not  
20 limited, to §§ 23-13-9, 27-41-2(21), 27-41-36 or any other state rule or regulation.

21 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

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1           This bill would require health insurance plans to cover services provided by licensed  
2 certified professional midwives. Insurers would be required to report utilization and cost data  
3 annually and certain limited benefit policies would be exempt.

4           This act would take effect on January 1, 2026.

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