

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

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HOUSE BILL 824

Short Title: Contraceptive Education for Women in Recovery. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Fisher, Insko, Harrison, and Ager (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 13, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
3 DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND
4 SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES, TO DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE TO
5 WOMEN RECEIVING TREATMENT OR SERVICES FOR ALCOHOL OR
6 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS ON LONG-ACTING,
7 REVERSIBLE CONTRACEPTION.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** Article 3A of Chapter 122C of the General Statutes is amended by
10 adding a new section to read:

11 **"§ 122C-82. Contraceptive education for women in treatment for alcohol or substance**
12 **use disorder.**

13 (a) As used in this section, "long-acting, reversible contraceptive drug or device" or
14 "LARC method" means a contraceptive drug or device that meets all of the following criteria:

- 15 (1) Is a method of birth control that provides effective contraception for an
16 extended period of time without depending upon user action.
17 (2) Is designed as a temporary method of birth control that the user can elect to
18 discontinue.
19 (3) Has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for
20 use as a contraceptive.
21 (4) Is obtained under a prescription written by a health care provider authorized
22 to prescribe medications under the laws of this State.

23 (b) The Division, in consultation with the Division of Public Health, shall develop and
24 make available, free of charge to the general public on its Internet Web site, in a format that can
25 be downloaded, printable publications containing medically accurate information that is
26 sufficient to allow a woman receiving treatment or services for alcohol or substance use
27 disorder to make an informed decision about whether to use a LARC method while in recovery
28 from alcohol or substance use disorder. The publications shall include at least all of the
29 following information:

- 30 (1) An explanation of the LARC methods approved by the United States Food
31 and Drug Administration.
32 (2) An explanation of the medical processes involved in initiating and
33 discontinuing the LARC methods approved by the United States Food and
34 Drug Administration.



- 1 (3) An explanation of the benefits associated with the use of LARC methods
2 approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration.
- 3 (4) An explanation of the contraindications, risks, and side effects associated
4 with each of the LARC methods approved by the United States Food and
5 Drug Administration.
- 6 (5) An explanation of the effects of prenatal alcohol or drug exposure to
7 developing fetuses.
- 8 (6) An explanation of the short-term and long-term effects of prenatal alcohol or
9 drug exposure to newborns.
- 10 (c) The Division shall make available, free of charge to the following entities by
11 request, printed copies of the educational materials developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this
12 section:
- 13 (1) Local health departments. Each local health department shall distribute these
14 educational materials to female clients in conjunction with the provision of
15 any alcohol or substance use disorder treatment or services.
- 16 (2) Alcohol and drug treatment centers operated under the authority of the
17 Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to G.S. 122C-181. Each
18 alcohol and drug treatment center shall distribute these educational materials
19 to female clients in conjunction with the provision of any alcohol or
20 substance use disorder treatment or services.
- 21 (3) Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) participating in the
22 medication-assisted treatment pilot program authorized by Section 12F.1 of
23 S.L. 2016-94. Each participating FQHC shall distribute these educational
24 materials to female clients in conjunction with the provision of any alcohol
25 or substance use disorder treatment or services.
- 26 (4) All private providers of alcohol and substance use disorder services. The
27 Department shall encourage providers to distribute these educational
28 materials to female clients as a part of the services they provide.
- 29 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require, or authorize another entity to
30 require, a woman to use a LARC method as a condition for receiving alcohol or substance use
31 disorder treatment or services."

32 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2017.