

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 4, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 508**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Cristina Garcia**

February 23, 2015

---

---

An act to add Section ~~137.5~~ 123237 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 508, as amended, Cristina Garcia. Public health: maternal care.

Existing law establishes the State Department of Public Health and sets forth its powers and duties, as specified. Existing law requires the State Department of Public Health to develop a coordinated state strategy for addressing the health-related needs of women, including implementation of goals and objectives for women's health. *department to maintain a program of maternal and child health.*

~~This bill would establish within the State Department of Public Health, the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative. The bill would require the collaborative to establish a statewide system for purposes of collecting and maintaining data related to, among other things, pregnancy-related maternal deaths. The bill would require any hospital in this state that provides obstetrical services to provide to the department, on a monthly basis, information relating to maternal mortality, as specified.~~

*This bill would require the department to prepare and publish an annual report on maternal mortality and morbidity in California. The bill also would require the department to include in the report an in-depth analysis of maternal deaths and pregnancy-related complications, and would require the department, in order to develop*

*the most accurate reports, to support efforts of private-public collaboration to collect necessary data and complete the report.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 123237 is added to the Health and Safety  
2 Code, to read:

3 123237. (a) The State Department of Public Health, as part  
4 of its work to advance and improve California maternity care  
5 through data-driven quality improvement, shall prepare and  
6 publish an annual report on maternal mortality and morbidity in  
7 California. The report shall include, but not be limited to, an  
8 analysis of all maternal deaths and instances of complications  
9 related to pregnancy, which includes all of the following:

- 10 (1) Patient demographics.
- 11 (2) Underlying causes.
- 12 (3) Contributing factors.
- 13 (4) Suggestions for improvements in care.

14 (b) In order to develop the most accurate reports, the department  
15 shall support efforts of private-public collaboration to collect and  
16 analyze necessary data and complete the report.

17 ~~SECTION 1. Section 137.5 is added to the Health and Safety~~  
18 ~~Code, to read:~~

19 ~~137.5. (a) There is hereby established within the State~~  
20 ~~Department of Public Health, the California Maternal Quality Care~~  
21 ~~Collaborative, for purposes of advancing California maternity care~~  
22 ~~through data-driven quality improvement.~~

23 ~~(b) The collaborative shall do all of the following:~~

24 ~~(1) Establish and maintain a statewide, sustainable, collaborative,~~  
25 ~~evidence-based, and data-driven quality improvement system.~~

26 ~~(2) Provide leadership and tools for the achievement of~~  
27 ~~documentable and continuous improvements in maternity outcomes~~  
28 ~~and a reduction in disparities of care processes and outcomes.~~

29 ~~(3) Engage multiple stakeholders and groups, including, but not~~  
30 ~~limited to, clinicians, women, communities, insurers, researchers,~~  
31 ~~organizations, and public policymakers, for purposes of working~~  
32 ~~together to improve maternal and newborn health outcomes in this~~  
33 ~~state.~~

- 1     ~~(4) Maintain and analyze data provided by hospitals pursuant~~  
2 ~~to subdivision (c):~~
- 3     ~~(e) (1) Any hospital in this state that provides obstetrical~~  
4 ~~services shall report to the department, on a monthly basis, data~~  
5 ~~relating to its provision of obstetrical services, including, but not~~  
6 ~~limited to, information on pregnancy-related maternal deaths and~~  
7 ~~rates of obstetric hemorrhage or infection, and recommendations~~  
8 ~~relating to maternal mortality prevention:~~
- 9     ~~(2) The monthly report required pursuant to subparagraph (A)~~  
10 ~~shall be provided no later than 45 days following the end of the~~  
11 ~~month for which the data applies and is required.~~
- 12     ~~(d) The department shall be provided funding for purposes of~~  
13 ~~adequately staffing the collaborative.~~
- 14     ~~(e) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall~~  
15 ~~have the following meanings:~~
- 16     ~~(1) “Collaborative” means the California Maternal Quality Care~~  
17 ~~Collaborative.~~
- 18     ~~(2) “Department” means the State Department of Public Health.~~
- 19     ~~(3) “Hospital” means a general acute care hospital, as defined~~  
20 ~~in Section 1250, that provides obstetrical services.~~