

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to require the Board of Medicine to annually communicate to relevant practitioners the*
3 *importance of screening patients for prenatal and postnatal depression and other depression.*

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5 Approved

[H 42]

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

7 **1. § 1.** *The Board of Medicine shall annually issue a communication to every practitioner licensed by*
8 *the Board who provides primary, maternity, obstetrical, or gynecological health care services reiterating*
9 *the standard of care pertaining to prenatal or postnatal depression or other depression. Such*
10 *communication shall encourage practitioners to screen every patient who is pregnant or who has been*
11 *pregnant within the previous five years for prenatal or postnatal depression or other depression, as*
12 *clinically appropriate and shall provide information to practitioners regarding the factors that may*
13 *increase susceptibility of certain patients to prenatal or postnatal depression or other depression,*
14 *including racial and economic disparities, and encourage providers to remain cognizant of the increased*
15 *risk of depression for such patients.*

ENROLLED

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