

# HB 1154: Maternal Mood and Anxiety Screening

Legislative Rubric from Science for Georgia

[HB 1154](#) would require Medicaid to cover lactation services and mood and anxiety screening for perinatal mothers for up to a year postpartum.

Criteria	Variables			
<b>Impact</b> <b>Who is going to be impacted? Is it equitable? List stakeholders &amp; opinions.</b>	Negative		Positive	
	Georgia has one of the <a href="#">worst maternal mortality rates</a> in the US. The CDC reports that <a href="#">4 in 5 maternal deaths</a> in the US are preventable. This has been referred to a maternal health crisis that disproportionately impacts minority populations. Maternal health advocacy groups are in support of the bill.			
<b>Reach</b> <b>Does it reach its target audience?</b>	0 - No impact on target audience	1 - Impacts narrow segment	<b>2 - Impacts majority; exceptions</b>	3 - Impacts entire target audience
	The bill would increase the coverage under Medicaid but would not guarantee that all qualifying women are screened.			
<b>Scientific Merit</b> <b>Does it utilize scientific research accurately?</b>	<b>YES - this does follow scientific research accurately. Here's why...</b>		NO - this does not present scientific research accurately	
	The <a href="#">leading cause</a> of post-pregnancy-related death is mental health conditions leading to suicide or overdose. Georgia <a href="#">ranks low</a> in terms of maternal mental health. Screening is vital for catching mental health conditions before irreversible actions are taken.			
<b>Financial Feasibility</b> <b>Is it financially feasible? or does this have burdensome finances (higher taxes, future costs, etc)?</b>	0 - Extremely high costs	1 - Expensive but can be done	<b>2 - Slight financial burden</b>	3 - No financial burden
	Covering the cost of mental health screenings and care may slightly increase the costs of Medicaid but could produce savings in terms of acute care and deaths averted.			
<b>Political Feasibility</b> <b>Level of opposition and partisan disagreement.</b>	0 - Majority disagreed, regardless of party	<b>1 - Split along party lines</b>	2 - Minimal Opposition	3 - Complete consensus (zero to five 'Nays')
	All sponsors are democrats. The bill did not go to committee.			
<b>Measurable Metrics?</b> <b>We recommend looking at these 3 metrics. Is the data available or being measured?</b>	<b>0 - no data</b>	1 - some data / not accessible	2 - most data / somewhat accessible	3 - complete transparency
	The bill does not impact reporting of mental health conditions and maternal mortality in the state.			