

**Division of Medical Assistance**  
**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Office of Medicaid**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Under the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, section 16 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Division of Medical Assistance (the Division) will hold a remote public hearing on Monday, December 2, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. relative to the emergency adoption of amendments to the following regulation.

**130 CMR 463.000: Doula Services**

130 CMR 463.000 governs MassHealth providers of doula services and the provision of MassHealth-covered doula services to MassHealth members.

The proposed amendments update 130 CMR 463.000 to: (1) allow non-doula group practices to bill for doula services; (2) allow doulas to join such group practices; (3) clarify that group doula visits are a non-covered service; and (4) establish that doula services are covered for eligible adoptive parents until the adopted infant reaches one year of age.

In order to promote access to doula services for eligible MassHealth members and ensure consistency with recent updates to state law (i.e., Section 41 of Chapter 186 of the Acts of 2024), the proposed amendments were adopted on an emergency basis, effective November 8, 2024. The proposed amendments are not anticipated to result in an increase in annual aggregate MassHealth expenditures. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

To register to testify at the hearing and to get instructions on how to join the hearing online, go to [www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-public-hearings](http://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-public-hearings). To join the hearing by phone, call (646) 558-8656 and enter meeting ID 935 397 8200# when prompted.

You may also submit written testimony instead of, or in addition to, live testimony. To submit written testimony, please email your testimony to [masshealthpublicnotice@mass.gov](mailto:masshealthpublicnotice@mass.gov) as an attached Word or PDF document or as text within the body of the email with the name of the regulation in the subject line. All written testimony must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by email should mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on December 2, 2024. The Division specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the emergency regulation, go to [www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-public-hearings](http://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-public-hearings) or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by email at [ADAAccommodations@mass.gov](mailto:ADAAccommodations@mass.gov) or by phone at (617) 847-3468 (TTY: (617) 847-3788 for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled). Please allow two weeks to schedule sign language interpreters.

The Division may adopt a final, revised version of the emergency regulation taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHealth website at [www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-public-hearings](http://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-public-hearings).

November 8, 2024

## Small Business Impact Statement

*(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)*

**CMR No: 130 CMR 463.000: Doula Services**

**Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: Currently, there are approximately 124 MassHealth-enrolled doula providers.**

### Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? No. The proposed emergency amendments will not require small businesses to create, file, or issue additional reports.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? No. The proposed emergency amendments will not require small businesses to implement additional recordkeeping procedures.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? No. The proposed emergency amendments will not require small businesses to provide additional administrative oversight.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? No. The proposed emergency amendments will not require small businesses to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)? No. The proposed emergency amendments will not require small businesses to hire other professionals to comply with the regulation.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? No. The proposed emergency amendments will not require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.) No. Performance standards are not more appropriate than design or operational standards.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? No. No other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation.
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities? Yes. This regulation requires MassHealth-enrolled doula providers to cooperate with the audit, inspection, and other regulatory enforcement activities set forth in this regulation, as well as those that apply to all MassHealth providers.

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? No. The regulation does not require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up with regulatory requirements.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? No. The regulation is unlikely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? No. The regulation is unlikely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No. The regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No. The regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No. The proposed regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? No. Distinguishing small businesses from other businesses would not be practicable for this regulation.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? No. The regulation is required by statutes and its goals could not be achieved through alternative methods.