

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SB 5898

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**C 347 L 05**  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Ordering a public information campaign on postpartum depression.

**Sponsors:** Senators Regala, Brandland, Pridemore, Hargrove, Thibaudeau, Oke, Kohl-Welles and Rasmussen.

**Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care**

**House Committee on Health Care**

**House Committee on Appropriations**

**Background:** Postpartum depression is a serious condition that affects women of all ages, economic status, and racial and ethnic backgrounds. It includes a range of physical and emotional changes that many mothers can have after the birth of a child, which can be treated with medication and counseling. If untreated, however, postpartum depression can lead to, among other things, further depression, self-destructive behavior, neglect of the infant or other siblings, or even suicide.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists estimates that about ten percent of new mothers experience postpartum depression.

**Summary:** The Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect must conduct a public information and outreach campaign about the significance, signs, and treatment of postpartum depression. The campaign may, within available funds, include production and distribution of a brochure and communication by electronic media, telephone hotlines, and existing parenting education events that are funded by the Council.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	46	0	
House	95	1	(House amended)
Senate	43	0	(Senate concurred)

**Effective:** July 24, 2005