A bill to be entitled

An act relating to drowning prevention education; creating s. 383.3363, F.S.; requiring the Department of Health to develop educational materials on drowning prevention safety measures and safe bathing practices for specified purposes; providing requirements for such materials; requiring hospitals, birth centers, and home birth providers to provide the educational materials to new parents and caregivers as part of their postpartum education and care; requiring childbirth educators to provide the informational materials to parents or caregivers receiving childbirth education from them; amending ss. 383.318 and 395.1053, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 383.3363, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

383.3363 Education on drowning prevention safety measures and safe bathing practices.—

(1) The Department of Health shall develop educational materials on drowning prevention safety measures and safe bathing practices to be distributed to parents or caregivers as

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

part of postpartum or childbirth education provided by hospitals, birth centers, home birth providers, and childbirth educators in this state. The materials must include, but need not be limited to, instruction on all of the following:

(a) The increased risk of drowning for infants and toddlers in bathtubs, pools, and other water sources, citing available data on such drownings.

(b) Water safety measures parents can employ to prevent drowning, emphasizing the importance of constant supervision of infants and children while they are around water and the benefits of early childhood swimming lessons and water competency programs as an added layer of protection from drownings.

(c) Additional safety hazards in the home setting and evidence-based safe bathing practices.

(2) Each hospital, birth center, and home birth provider providing maternity, prenatal, and newborn services shall provide the educational materials developed under subsection (1) to the parents or caregivers of a newborn as part of its postpartum education and care.

(3) Childbirth educators shall provide the educational materials developed under subsection (1) to the parents or caregivers receiving childbirth education.

Section 2. Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (4) of section 383.318, Florida Statutes, to read:

383.318 Postpartum care for birth center clients and infants.—

(4) The birth center shall provide a postpartum evaluation and followup care that includes all of the following:

(j) Provision of the educational materials on drowning prevention safety measures and safe bathing practices developed by the Department of Health under s. 383.3363.

Section 3. Section 395.1053, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

395.1053 Postpartum education.—A hospital that provides birthing services shall provide each parent with postpartum education on the care of newborns, which must include all of the following:

(1) ~~incorporate~~ Information on safe sleep practices and the possible causes of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death. ~~into the hospital's postpartum instruction on the care of newborns and provide to each parent~~

(2) Provision of the informational pamphlet on infant and childhood eye and vision disorders created by the department pursuant to s. 383.14(3)(h).

(3) Provision of the educational materials on drowning prevention safety measures and safe bathing practices developed by the department under s. 383.3363.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.