

Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act

**HEALTHY
MOMS.
STRONG
BABIES.**



Lead Sponsors



Representative Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14)



Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ)

Background

In one of the richest nations, moms are dying at one of the highest rates in the developed world – and the rate is rising.



As dire as the situation is overall, the crisis is most severe for Black moms in the U.S., who are dying at 3 to 4 times the rate of their White counterparts, and other women and birthing people of color.

To address this crisis, Representatives Lauren Underwood & Alma Adams, Senator Cory Booker, and Members of the Black Maternal Health Caucus are introducing the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021. The Momnibus Act builds on existing legislation like 12-month postpartum Medicaid coverage to comprehensively address every dimension of the maternal health crisis in the United States.

Bill Summary

The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021 is composed of 12 individual bills sponsored by Black Maternal Health Caucus Members. The legislation will:



- 1** Make critical investments in social determinants of health that influence maternal health outcomes, like housing, transportation, and nutrition.
- 2** Provide funding to community-based organizations that are working to improve maternal health outcomes and promote equity.
- 3** Comprehensively study the unique maternal health risks facing pregnant and postpartum veterans and support VA maternity care coordination programs.

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NEMOURS
CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Bill Summary (continued)

- 4 Grow and diversify the perinatal workforce to ensure that every mom in America receives culturally congruent maternity care and support.
- 5 Improve data collection processes and quality measures to better understand the causes of the maternal health crisis in the United States and inform solutions to address it.
- 6 Support moms with maternal mental health conditions and substance use disorders.
- 7 Improve maternal health care and support for incarcerated moms.
- 8 Invest in digital tools like telehealth to improve maternal health outcomes in underserved areas.
- 9 Promote innovative payment models to incentivize high-quality maternity care and continuity of insurance coverage from pregnancy through labor and delivery and up to 1 year postpartum.
- 10 Invest in federal programs to address the unique risks for and effects of COVID-19 during and after pregnancy and to advance respectful maternity care in future public health emergencies.
- 11 Invest in community-based initiatives to reduce levels of and exposure to climate change-related risks for moms and babies.
- 12 Promote maternal vaccinations to protect the health and safety of moms and babies.

Endorsements

The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021 is endorsed by 191 organizations, listed [here](#). Quotes in support of the Momnibus can be found [here](#).

“ Black women are dying at higher rates than all other races, which is unacceptable. Almost two thirds of maternal deaths are preventable. Now is the time to enact policies that will eliminate disparities and improve health outcomes for women of color.

-Stacey D. Stewart, President & CEO

Original Cosponsors



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