Black Maternal Health Omnibus Act of 2021

NBEC Policy Shop: Federal Policy Team
Meet the Federal Policy Team!

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Background

- Black women are 2-3 times more likely to experience a pregnancy related death than white women
- Racism, *not race*, is responsible for maternal health disparities
- Black women are leaders in maternal health, demonstrating that we can craft solutions to problems in our communities
- Policies at the federal and state levels are important to addressing disparities
  - Maternal Mortality Review Committees
- Medicaid is the largest payer for maternity care
  - Pays for nearly half of all U.S. births, including 66% of births to Black women
  - Coverage gap
  - Doula reimbursement
NBEC’s Policy & Advocacy Priorities

- **Addressing** Racism Within the Health Care System
- **Promoting** Health Equity & Increasing Access to Quality, Comprehensive & Affordable Care
- **Improving** Data Collection, Disaggregation & Dissemination
- **Supporting** Policies That Address Systemic Racism & Social Risk Factors
The Black Maternal Health Caucus

- Launched in 2019 under the leadership of Congresswomen Alma Adams and Lauren Underwood
  - 53 founding members
  - One of the largest bipartisan caucuses in Congress
- Organized around the goals of elevating the Black maternal health crisis with Congress and advancing policy solutions to improve maternal health outcomes and end disparities
- The Black Maternal Health Omnibus seek to fill in gaps in existing legislation to comprehensively address every dimension of the Black maternal health crisis

https://blackmaternalhealthcaucus-underwood.house.gov/Momnibus
The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021

- Seeks to address every dimension of the Black maternal health crisis
- Makes critical investments in social determinants of health
- Provides funding to community-based organizations
- Grows and diversifies the perinatal workforce
- Improves data collection and quality measures
The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021 is composed of 12 individual bills.
The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021

- **Social Determinants for Moms Act**  
  Rep. Lucy McBath (D-GA-06)  
  - Makes key investments and advances critical research on social determinants to save moms and end disparities in maternal health outcomes  
  - Provides federal guidance on the use of Medicaid funding to address social determinants of health for pregnant and postpartum women

- **Kira Johnson Act**  
  Rep. Alma S. Adams (D-NC-12)  
  - Funds community-based organizations that are leading the charge to protect moms  
  - Provides funding for grant programs to implement and study consistent bias, racism, and discrimination trainings for all employees in maternity care settings

- **Perinatal Workforce Act**  
  Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI-04) and U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR)  
  - Calls on the Secretary of Health and Human Services to (1) provide guidance to states on the promotion of diverse maternity care teams and (2) to study how culturally congruent maternity care promotes better outcomes for moms  
  - Provides funding to establish and scale programs that will grow and diversify the maternal health workforce, increasing the number of nurses, physician assistants, and other perinatal health workers like doulas, community health workers, and peer supporters
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- **Protecting Moms Who Served Act**
  Reps. Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14) and Gus Bilirakis (R-FL-12) and U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
  - Commissions a comprehensive study of the scope of America’s maternal health crisis among women veterans, with a particular focus on racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes
  - Funds critical investments in maternity care coordination for women veterans at Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities

- **Justice for Incarcerated Moms Act**
  Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA-7) and U.S. Senators Cory Booker (D-NJ), Mazie K. Hirono (D-HI), and Richard J. Durbin (D-IL)
  - Uses financial incentives for all state and local prisons and jails to end the practice of shackling pregnant women
  - Provides funding for federal, state, and local prisons and jails to establish programs for pregnant and postpartum women in their facilities

- **Maternal Health Pandemic Response Act**
  U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14)
  - Requires that COVID-19 data are disaggregated by pregnancy status, race, ethnicity, and other demographic characteristics
  - Advances strategies to ensure that birthing people receive safe, respectful, culturally congruent maternity care and support during COVID-19 and future public health emergencies
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- **Data to Save Moms Act**
  Rep. Sharice Davids (D-KS-03) and U.S. Senator Tina Smith (D-MN)
  - Promotes greater diversity and community engagement in state and Tribal maternal mortality review committees
  - Establishes a Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures

- **Moms Matter Act**
  Reps. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE-at-large), and John Katko (R-NY-24) and U.S. Senator Kristen Gillibrand (D-NY)
  - Establishes a Maternal Mental and Behavioral Health Task Force to improve mental and behavioral health outcomes for women throughout pregnancy and up to one year postpartum
  - Establishes grant programs to promote innovative approaches to improving maternal health outcomes with a particular focus on maternal mental health and substance use disorder for minority women

- **Tech to Save Moms Act**
  Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX-32) and U.S. Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ)
  - Require the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation to consider models that improve the integration of telehealth services in maternal health care
  - Study the use of artificial intelligence in maternal health care to prevent racial and ethnic biases from being built into new maternity care technological innovations
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• IMPACT to Save Moms Act
  Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL-09) and U.S. Senator Bob Casey (D-PA)
  – Establishes a new CMS Innovation Center demonstration project to transform maternity care delivery
  – Creates an innovative perinatal care alternative payment model demonstration project to address clinical and non-clinical factors in payments for maternity care

• Protecting Moms and Babies Against Climate Change Act
  Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14) & U.S. Senator Ed Markey (D-MA)
  – Ensures pregnant and postpartum patients can receive maternity care from providers who are training in identify and responding to climate change-related maternal and infant health risks
  – Integrates community based organizations into National Institute of Health research on climate change and maternal and infant health

• Maternal Vaccinations Act
  Rep. Terri A. Sewell (D-AL-07) and U.S. Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA)
  – Provides doulas, community health workers, and other perinatal health workers about the importance of maternal vaccines
  – Provides Critical information about maternal vaccinations through trusted community-based organizations, public health departments, and other local leaders and entities
NBEC’s Federal Policy Coalition Work

• 17P Alliance, National Consumers League
• Beyond Do No Harm, Interrupting Criminalization
• Big Tent, Families USA
• Black Maternal Health Core Policy Group Meeting, Black Women in Policy
• Black Maternal Health Caucus Stakeholder Group, Rep. Lauren Underwood
• Black Maternal Health Stakeholder Group, HHS and March of Dimes
• Contraceptive Research Roadmap Workgroup, Coalition to Expand Contraceptive Access Workgroup
• Cross-Sector Coverage Council, Families USA
• Equitable Maternal Health Coalition; Steering Committee; Policy Table Chair, March of Dimes and Johnson & Johnson
• Generative Learning Community on Self-Managed Abortion (GLC), Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity (URGE)
• Health Equity Task Force, Families USA
NBEC’s Federal Policy Coalition Work

- Maternal Applications of Technology for Community Health (MATCH), REACH
- Maternal Health Hub Learning Community, Health Care Transformation Task Force
- Maternity Care Caucus Stakeholder Group, Reps. Herrera Beutler and Roybal-Allard
- Mom and Baby Action Network, March of Dimes
- Morehouse School of Medicine, Health Equity Task Force, Morehouse School of Medicine
- We Demand More Coalition, Planned Parenthood Action Fund (PPFA)
- Women’s Health Defense Table, National Partnership for Women and Families
- Zero Maternal Death Initiative, Lamaze International
Thank you!