



SPONSOR: Rep. Minor-Brown on behalf of all Representatives &  
Sen. S. McBride on behalf of all Senators

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3

DESIGNATING JANUARY 23, 2023, AS "MATERNAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

- 1 WHEREAS, the United States continues to experience a growing maternal health crisis; and
- 2 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 700 women die
- 3 each year from conditions related to pregnancy, which is one of the highest in industrialized countries; and
- 4 WHEREAS, in Delaware, from 2015 to 2019, there was a pregnancy-related death rate of 10 in 54,908; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) of Delaware has reported that mental health and
- 6 substance use disorders continue to be significant factors in the maternal mortality rate in Delaware; and
- 7 WHEREAS, nationally, another 50,000 women experience severe pregnancy-related complications, including
- 8 depression and substance use disorder, which may affect their health for the rest of their lives; and
- 9 WHEREAS, maternal morbidity and mortality disproportionately affect black and brown women due to systemic
- 10 racism and implicit bias, which has resulted in such health disparities; and
- 11 WHEREAS, the MMRC and the Delaware Perinatal Quality Collaborative strive to initiate and support programs
- 12 which decrease overall maternal mortality and morbidity, implicit bias, and maternal health disparities; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the effects of mental health illness do not just affect patients but also providers; and
- 14 WHEREAS, provider burnout is considered a public health crisis, with the rate of burnout as high as 50% for
- 15 physicians and non-physician practitioners; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the risk of physician suicide is 1.5 times greater than the general population; and
- 17 WHEREAS, there continues to be a pressing need for awareness, funding, access, and resources for patients and
- 18 providers alike regarding mental health wellness and treatment.
- 19 NOW, THEREFORE:
- 20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the
- 21 Senate concurring therein, that the General Assembly hereby designates January 23, 2023, as "Maternal Health Awareness
- 22 Day" in the State of Delaware, in order to continue to raise public and professional awareness about important health trends
- 23 that affect maternal morbidity and mortality and initiatives and programs that promote maternal safety and decrease health

24 disparities; to actively engage both community and state stakeholders to seek solutions that improve maternal mental health  
25 wellness, and to address the multi-factorial causes of burnout for physicians and non-physicians, including the workforce  
26 crisis, which has contributed to the distress and emotional fatigue of the practice of medicine and the public health crisis of  
27 provider burnout.

#### SYNOPSIS

This House Concurrent Resolution designates January 23, 2023, as "Maternal Health Awareness Day" in the State of Delaware.