



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.