

Maternal Health Quality Improvement Act

Section by Section Summary

SECTION I – SHORT TITLE

Maternal Health Quality Improvement Act of 2021

SECTION II – INNOVATION FOR MATERNAL HEALTH

Directs Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish a competitive grant program for eligible entities that:

- Develop best practices that aim to improve maternal and infant health outcomes and eliminate preventable maternal mortality;
- Collaborate with state mortality review committees to identify issues with the development and implementation of best practices to improve maternal and infant health outcomes;
- Provide technical assistance to help implement best practices to improve maternal and infant health outcomes in settings where care is provided to pregnant and postpartum women; and
- Identify and evaluate new models of care that improve maternal and infant health outcomes, which may include integration of community-based services and clinical care.

The Secretary of HHS shall issue a report to Congress every 2 years on the extent to which the grant recipients were able to reduce maternal mortality.

Congress shall authorize \$9,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

SECTION III – TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Directs Secretary of HHS to establish a grant program for accredited medical schools to train health care providers on racial and ethnic bias when providing care to pregnant and postpartum women.

Each grant recipient must submit periodic reports to the Secretary of HHS on how they use the grant. The Secretary of HHS must also submit a report to Congress on the information gathered from grantees.

Congress shall authorize \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

SECTION IV – STUDY ON IMPROVING TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Directs the Secretary of HHS to conduct a study and make recommendations for accredited medical schools and other health professional training programs on best practices to train health care providers on racial and ethnic bias when providing care to pregnant and postpartum women.

SECTION V – PERINATAL QUALITY COLLABORATIONS

Directs HHS and the CDC to establish a competitive grant program for the establishment of perinatal quality collaboratives to improve perinatal care.

The Secretary of HHS must submit a report to Congress on the information gathered from grantees.

SECTION VI – INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN

Establishes a grant program to support integrated care services for pregnant and postpartum women to optimize their health and health of infants.

Grants will prioritize states and tribal organizations with highest rates of maternal mortality and more pronounced racial and ethnic health disparities.

Congress shall authorize \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

The Secretary of HHS must also submit a report to Congress on the information gathered from grantees and disseminate information on best practices to relevant stakeholders.