



# Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021

Representative Lauren Underwood (IL-14)

Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ)

## BACKGROUND

In the richest nation on earth, moms are dying at the highest rate in the developed world – and the rate is rising. For 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 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 twelve 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.
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.



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## ORIGINAL COSPONSORS

**House of Representatives:** Alma S. Adams; Ro Khanna; Nydia M. Velázquez; Lucy McBath; Adam Smith; Mary Gay Scanlon; André Carson; Al Lawson; Jahana Hayes; G. K. Butterfield; Joyce Beatty; Gwen Moore; Marilyn Strickland; Mike Doyle; Ilhan Omar; Katherine Clark; Tim Ryan; Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.; Adam B. Schiff; Hank Johnson; Steven Horsford; Terri A. Sewell; Lisa Blunt Rochester; Debbie Wasserman Schultz; Nanette Diaz Barragán; Yvette D. Clarke; Ted Deutch; Donald M. Payne, Jr.; Gregory W. Meeks; Betty McCollum; Eleanor Holmes Norton; Thomas R. Suozzi; Diana DeGette; Earl Blumenauer; Angie Craig; Lois Frankel; Seth Moulton; Darren Soto; Jerrold Nadler; David Trone; Elaine Luria; John P. Sarbanes; Abigail Davis Spanberger; Jackie Speier; Eddie Bernice Johnson; Cheri Bustos; Danny K. Davis; Jan Schakowsky; Jamaal Bowman; Sharice L. Davids; Kim Schrier, M.D.; Alcee L. Hastings; Karen Bass; Bonnie Watson Coleman; Barbara Lee; Chrissy Houlahan; Ayanna Pressley; Steve Cohen; Colin Allred; Dwight Evans; Cori Bush; Jason Crow; Kathy Castor; Judy Chu; Rashida Tlaib; Gerald E. Connolly; Sara Jacobs; Val Demings; Ami Bera, M.D.; Ann McLane Kuster; Norma J. Torres; Paul Tonko; Lizzie Fletcher; Sheila Jackson Lee; Jerry McNerney; Chellie Pingree; Greg Stanton; Mondaire Jones, Susan Wild; and Jamie Raskin.

**Senate:** Tammy Duckworth; Kirsten E. Gillibrand; Richard J. Durbin; Tim Kaine; Robert P. Casey, Jr.; Gary C. Peters; and Jeff Merkley.

## 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](#).

## CONTACT

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