

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 76

Reps. Neeley, Arbit, Brabec, Breen, Fitzgerald, Haadsma, Hoskins, Liberati, Morse, Rheingans, Rogers, Weiss and Young offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare April 10-16, 2023, as Black Maternal
2 Health Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, According to the Centers for Disease Control and
4 Prevention (CDC), Black mothers in the United States die at two to
5 three times the rate of white mothers; and

6 Whereas, The CDC data from 2021 shows there were 26.6 deaths
7 per 100,000 live births for white women, 69.9 deaths per 100,000
8 live births for Black women, and 32.9 deaths per 100,000 live
9 births for women of all races in the United States; and

10 Whereas, Black maternal death is one of the widest of all

1 racial disparities in women's health; and

2 Whereas, Black women are 22 percent more likely to die from
3 heart disease than white women and 1.5 times more likely to die
4 from cervical cancer, but three to four times more likely to die
5 from pregnancy- or childbirth-related causes; and

6 Whereas, According to the National Institutes of Health, when
7 compared with white women with the conditions for preeclampsia,
8 eclampsia, abruptio placentae, placenta previa, and postpartum
9 hemorrhage, which are common causes of maternal death and injury,
10 Black women were two to three times more likely to die than white
11 women who had the same condition; and

12 Whereas, Between 2014 to 2018, according to the Michigan
13 Maternal Mortality Surveillance Project, Black women in Michigan
14 die at a rate more than 4.5 times higher than white women or 39.6
15 deaths per 100,000 live births; and

16 Whereas, The United States, with a maternal mortality rate of
17 32.9 deaths per 100,000 pregnancies, ranks last among
18 industrialized countries; and

19 Whereas, These alarming statistics for Black maternal health
20 cut across socioeconomic status, maternal age, and education
21 levels; and

22 Whereas, The Michigan Legislature recognizes the necessity for
23 the increased attention to the state of Black maternal health,
24 studying and understanding the root causes of poor maternal health
25 outcomes and supporting community-driven programs, care solutions,
26 improving prenatal care and overall maternal health care, improving
27 breastfeeding rates and nutrition, and amplifying the voices of
28 Black mothers, women, families, and stakeholders, including Black
29 women from across the diaspora; and

1 Whereas, We also recognize the necessity to end maternal
2 mortality globally in order to amplify the need for maternal health
3 and rights; now, therefore, be it

4 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
5 this legislative body declare April 10-16, 2023, as Black Maternal
6 Health Week in the state of Michigan.