

S. 2415—

## The Preventing Maternal Deaths Reauthorization Act of 2023

Fact Sheet

Introduced by Senator Moore Capito, Shelley [R-WV]

The Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses supports the Preventing Maternal Deaths Reauthorization Act of 2023 as it would reauthorize federal support for state-based maternal mortality review committees, which review pregnancy-related deaths to identify causes and make recommendations to prevent future mortalities.

AWHONN’s position as found in the 2024 Legislative and Policy Agenda is to “Support initiatives to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality and improve the health status of pregnant and birthing people, as well as policies designed to increase funding to address racial health disparities, structural and social determinants of health, and resolve health inequities contributing to these issues. Support for legislation and funding to address the effects of systemic racism and environmental factors on maternal health and outcomes, including supporting innovative programs and interventions.”

The bill would reauthorize through Fiscal Year 2028 federal support for state-based maternal mortality review committees, which do the following:

- Maternal mortality review committees (MMRCs) are tasked with identifying maternal deaths, analyzing factors that contributed to those deaths, and translating the lessons into policy changes.
- MMRCs are staffed by representatives in public health, obstetrics and gynecology, maternal-fetal medicine, nursing, midwifery, forensic pathology, mental and behavioral health, patient advocacy groups, and community-based organizations.
- CDC currently supports MMRCs in 39 states and one territory under the Enhancing Reviews and Surveillance to Eliminate Maternal Mortality (ERASE MM) Program.
- ERASE MM supports agencies and organizations that coordinate and manage MMRCs to identify, review, and characterize pregnancy-related deaths, and identify prevention opportunities.

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- Passage of this legislation would help provide ongoing support and expansion of MMRCs and better protect women throughout their pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum period, and assist in narrowing racial disparities in outcomes.

### Cosponsors:

Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]

Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]

Sen. Marshall, Roger [R-KS]

Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]

Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]

Sen. Butler, Laphonza R. [D-CA]

Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]

Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]

Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]

Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]

Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]

Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]

Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]

Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]

Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]

Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]

Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]

Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]

To cosponsor the Preventing Maternal Deaths Reauthorization Act of 2023, please contact Dana Richter in Sen. Capito's office at [dana\\_richter@capito.senate.gov](mailto:dana_richter@capito.senate.gov).