

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7565

To continue to fund the IMPROVE Initiative through the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2022

Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To continue to fund the IMPROVE Initiative through the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “NIH Implementing
5 a Maternal health and PRegnancy Outcomes Vision for
6 Everyone Act of 2022” or the “NIH IMPROVE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVE INITIATIVE.**

2 Subpart 7 of part C of title IV of the Public Health
3 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 281 et seq.) is amended by adding
4 at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 452H. IMPROVE INITIATIVE.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Institute
7 may continue to carry out the IMPROVE initiative (here-
8 after in this section referred to as the ‘Initiative’) through
9 the Institute for the following:

10 “(1) Advancing research to—

11 “(A) reduce preventable causes of maternal
12 mortality and severe maternal morbidity;

13 “(B) reduce racial, ethnic, and socio-
14 economic disparities in maternal health out-
15 comes; and

16 “(C) improve health for pregnant and
17 postpartum individuals before, during, and after
18 pregnancy.

19 “(2) Using an integrated approach to under-
20 stand the biological, behavioral, sociocultural, and
21 structural factors that affect maternal mortality and
22 severe maternal morbidity by building an evidence
23 base for improved care and outcomes in specific re-
24 gions of the United States.

1 “(3) Targeting health disparities associated
2 with maternal mortality and severe maternal mor-
3 bidity by—

4 “(A) implementing and evaluating commu-
5 nity-based interventions for disproportionately
6 affected individuals; and

7 “(B) identifying risk factors and the un-
8 derlying biological mechanisms associated with
9 leading causes of maternal mortality and severe
10 maternal morbidity in the United States, in-
11 cluding cardiovascular disease, infection and
12 immunity, and mental health.

13 “(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Director of the Insti-
14 tute may award grants or enter into contracts, cooperative
15 agreements, or other transactions to carry out subsection
16 (a), including with researchers from racial and ethnic mi-
17 nority groups (as defined in section 1707(g)(1)).

18 “(c) APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be
19 appropriated to carry out this section \$30,000,000 for
20 each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.”.

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