

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.265

Rep. Brenda Carter offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare April 11-17, 2022, as Black Maternal
2 Health Week in the state of Michigan.

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

6 Whereas, The CDC data from 2014-2017 for pregnancy-related
7 deaths shows there were 13.4 deaths per 100,000 live births for
8 white women, 41.7 deaths per 100,000 live births for black women,
9 and 17.3 deaths per 100,000 live births for women of all races in
10 the United States; and

11 Whereas, Black maternal death is one of the widest of all
12 racial disparities in women's health; and

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

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

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

15 Whereas, The United States with a maternal mortality rate of
16 17.4 deaths per 100,000 pregnancies, ranks last among
17 industrialized countries; and

18 Whereas, These alarming statistics for black maternal health
19 cut across socio-economic status, maternal age, and education
20 levels; and

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

29 Whereas, We also recognize the necessity to end maternal

1 mortality globally in order to amplify the need for maternal health
2 and rights; now, therefore, be it

3 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
4 this legislative body declare April 11-17, 2022, as Black Maternal
5 Health Week in the state of Michigan.