

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 76

Rep. Neeley 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
11 racial disparities in women's health; and

12 Whereas, Black women are 22 percent more likely to die from

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

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

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

14 Whereas, The United States, with a maternal mortality rate of
15 32.9 deaths per 100,000 pregnancies, ranks last among
16 industrialized countries; and

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

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

28 Whereas, We also recognize the necessity to end maternal
29 mortality globally in order to amplify the need for maternal health

1 and rights; now, therefore, be it

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