

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 345

To establish a national campaign to increase maternal vaccination rates.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

Mr. KAINE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To establish a national campaign to increase maternal
vaccination rates.

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 “Maternal Vaccinations
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MATERNAL VACCINATION AWARENESS AND EQUITY**
7 **CAMPAIGN.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
9 Human Services (in this section referred to as the “Sec-
10 retary”), acting through the Director of the Centers for

1 Disease Control and Prevention, shall carry out a national
2 campaign to—

3 (1) increase awareness of the importance of ma-
4 ternal vaccinations for the health of pregnant and
5 postpartum individuals and their children; and

6 (2) increase maternal vaccination rates, with a
7 focus on communities with historically high rates of
8 unvaccinated individuals.

9 (b) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the campaign
10 under this section, the Secretary shall consult with rel-
11 evant community-based organizations, health care profes-
12 sional associations and public health associations, State
13 public health departments and local public health depart-
14 ments, Tribal-serving organizations, nonprofit organiza-
15 tions, and nationally recognized private entities.

16 (c) ACTIVITIES.—The campaign under this section
17 shall—

18 (1) focus on increasing maternal vaccination
19 rates in communities with historically high rates of
20 unvaccinated individuals, including for pregnant and
21 postpartum individuals from racial and ethnic mi-
22 nority groups;

23 (2) include efforts to engage with pregnant and
24 postpartum individuals in communities with histori-
25 cally high rates of unvaccinated individuals to seek

1 input on the development and effectiveness of the
 2 campaign;

3 (3) provide evidence-based, culturally congruent
 4 resources and communications efforts; and

5 (4) be carried out in partnership with trusted
 6 individuals and entities in communities with histori-
 7 cally high rates of unvaccinated individuals, includ-
 8 ing community-based organizations, community
 9 health centers, perinatal health workers, and mater-
 10 nity care providers.

11 (d) COLLABORATION.—The Secretary shall ensure
 12 that the information and resources developed for the cam-
 13 paign under this section are made publicly available and
 14 shared with relevant Federal, State, and local entities.

15 (e) EVALUATION.—Not later than the end of fiscal
 16 year 2025, the Secretary shall—

17 (1) establish quantitative and qualitative
 18 metrics to evaluate the campaign under this section;
 19 and

20 (2) submit a report detailing the impact of the
 21 campaign under this section to Congress.

22 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

23 (1) MATERNITY CARE PROVIDER.—The term
 24 “maternity care provider” means a health care pro-
 25 vider who—

1 (A) is a physician, physician assistant,
 2 midwife who meets at a minimum the inter-
 3 national definition of the midwife and global
 4 standards for midwifery education as estab-
 5 lished by the International Confederation of
 6 Midwives, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse
 7 specialist; and

8 (B) has a focus on maternal or perinatal
 9 health.

10 (2) PERINATAL HEALTH WORKER.—The term
 11 “perinatal health worker” means a doula, commu-
 12 nity health worker, peer supporter, breastfeeding
 13 and lactation educator or counselor, nutritionist or
 14 dietitian, childbirth educator, social worker, home
 15 visitor, language interpreter, or navigator.

16 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
 17 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated
 18 \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

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