

[First Reprint]

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 126

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 28, 2019

Sponsored by:

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District 28 (Essex)

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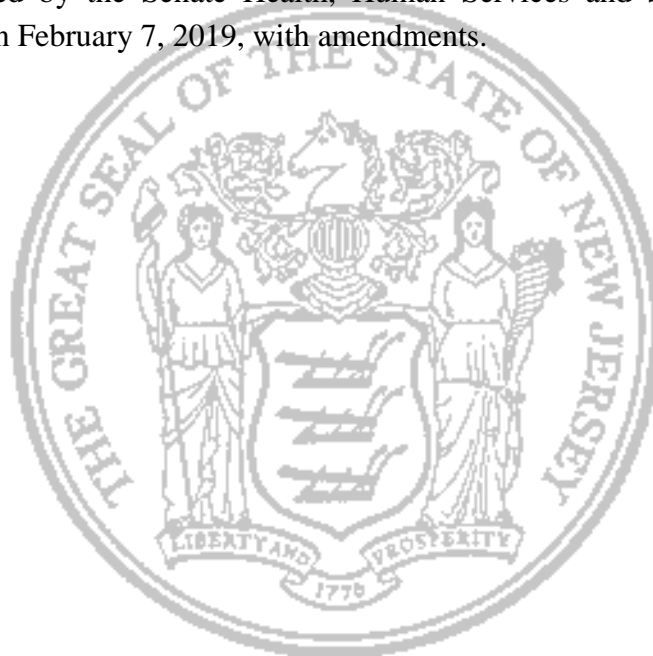
Senators Vitale and T.Kean

SYNOPSIS

Urges CDC to adopt uniform data system to collect information on maternal mortality.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee on February 7, 2019, with amendments.



- 1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** urging the Centers for Disease Control and
2 Prevention to adopt a uniform data system to collect information
3 on maternal mortality.
4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, The United States is ranked 50th in the world for its
6 maternal mortality rate, and is one of eight countries in which the
7 maternal mortality rate has been on the rise; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, Recent studies have found that the estimated maternal
9 mortality rate in the United States increased by approximately 27
10 percent between 2000 and 2014, with the rate increasing in
11 nearly every state in the country; and
- 12 **WHEREAS**, Maternal deaths in the United States result from
13 pregnancy-related causes such as hemorrhage, hypertensive
14 disease, preeclampsia, embolic disease, and sepsis, addiction-
15 related causes such as substance use disorder and overdose, and
16 violent causes, including motor vehicle accidents, homicide, and
17 suicide; and
- 18 **WHEREAS**, The most severe complications of pregnancy, generally
19 referred to as severe maternal morbidity, affect more than 65,000
20 women in the United States each year; and
- 21 **WHEREAS**, In 1986, the¹federal¹ Centers for Disease Control and
22 Prevention (CDC) implemented a Pregnancy Mortality
23 Surveillance System (PRAMS) to obtain information about the
24 frequency and causes of pregnancy-related death in the United
25 States; and
- 26 **WHEREAS**, Despite declines in maternal deaths in other parts of the
27 world, the data collected under the PRAMS has shown a steady
28 increase in the number of reported pregnancy-related deaths in
29 the United States; and
- 30 **WHEREAS**, In 2012, the most recent year for which surveillance
31 data is available, there were approximately 16 pregnancy-related
32 deaths per every 100,000 live births in the United States; and
- 33 **WHEREAS**, The most recent State-level data available on this issue
34 indicates that, from 2006 to 2008, the average pregnancy-related
35 mortality rate in New Jersey was 14.4 deaths per 100,000 births;
36 and
- 37 **WHEREAS**, Systemic reviews of maternal pregnancy-related and
38 pregnancy-associated deaths are essential in determining
39 strategies for developing prevention efforts, identifying at-risk
40 populations, and understanding how to support expectant
41 mothers and make pregnancy and the postpartum period safer;
42 and
- 43 **WHEREAS**, The CDC recommends that maternal deaths be
44 investigated through State maternal mortality review committees;
45 and

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SHH committee amendments adopted February 7, 2019.

1 **WHEREAS**, Currently, fewer than 25 states conduct systemic
 2 reviews of maternal deaths or have standing maternal mortality
 3 review committees; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Although ¹**[there is a bill pending before]** several bills
 5 have been introduced¹ in the United States Congress¹**[**, S.1112,
 6 the federal “Maternal Health Accountability Act of 2017,” that
 7 would require the CDC to support states and federally
 8 recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations in assessing the
 9 various factors that may contribute to maternal mortality,
 10 including quality of care and systemic problems in the delivery
 11 of health care,**]** in the current and past sessions that would
 12 provide grants and funding to assist states in tracking and
 13 reviewing maternal mortality data, no federal legislation has yet
 14 been enacted and¹ there is ¹currently¹ no uniform data system to
 15 collect information on pregnancy-related and pregnancy-
 16 associated deaths; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Adopting such a system would allow states and the
 18 federal government to share responsibility in identifying
 19 opportunities for improving maternal health care services, make
 20 recommendations on improving maternal health before, during,
 21 and after pregnancy, and implement system changes relating to
 22 maternal health care; now, therefore,

23
 24 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

25
 26 1. This House respectfully urges the ¹federal¹ Centers for
 27 Disease Control and Prevention to adopt a adopt a uniform data
 28 system to collect information on maternal mortality to allow states
 29 and the federal government to share responsibility in identifying
 30 opportunities for improving maternal health care services, make
 31 recommendations on improving maternal health before, during, and
 32 after pregnancy, and implement system changes relating to maternal
 33 health care.

34
 35 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
 36 shall be transmitted by the ¹ Clerk of the General Assembly or the¹
 37 Secretary of ¹**[State]** Senate¹ to the Director of the ¹federal¹
 38 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and to every member of
 39 New Jersey’s congressional delegation.