

Moms Matter Act

Representatives Yvette Clarke and Brian Fitzpatrick

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

More Resources:



BACKGROUND

According to maternal mortality review committees (MMRCs) that examine pregnancy-related deaths in their respective states, mental health conditions, including substance use disorders, are “the leading cause of preventable maternal death during pregnancy or in the first year postpartum.”¹

These challenges are most acute for low-income and minority families: according to the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), more than half of poor infants live with a mother who has some level of depressive symptoms.²

Yet despite the high need for care, 84% of birthing-aged women live in maternal mental health resource shortage areas.³

The bipartisan **Moms Matter Act** will make investments in programs to support moms with maternal mental health conditions and substance use disorders. It also provides critical funding to grow and diversify the maternal mental and behavioral health care workforce.

BILL SUMMARY

The **Moms Matter Act** will:

1. Establish a **Maternal Mental Health Equity Grant Program** to invest in local initiatives supporting people with mental health conditions or substance use disorders during or after pregnancy.
2. Provide funding for programs to **grow and diversify the maternal mental and behavioral health care workforce** to expand access to high-quality maternal mental health care and substance use disorder services.

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