



Senate: Pass H.R. 4768 –

the Home Visiting to Address Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Act

MIECHV is an important part of a continuum of voluntary, research-based services for families at risk of maternal mortality or morbidity. A doubling of funding for MIECHV would provide substantial reach to address maternal mortality and morbidity through an effective, existing infrastructure. MIECHV-funded programs are already on the ground, addressing the social determinants of health that affect maternal well-being, such as social support, transportation, mental health, housing, and nutrition.

MIECHV is currently funded at \$400 million per year and serves only about 150,000 of the 18 million parents and expectant parents who could benefit from its help. Because of limited resources, it is estimated MIECHV serves just 3% of the children and families in need.

In December, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3, the Lower Drug Costs Now Act. This bill included H.R. 4768, the Home Visiting to Reduce Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Act, legislation that would **double federal funding for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program** over two years from \$400 million to \$800 million by 2022 and increase tribal set-aside funding from 3-6%.

Specifically, H.R. 4768:

- Increases funding for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program (MIECHV) by 50 percent in 2021 (total funding of \$600 million) and doubles it in 2022 (total funding of \$800 million)
- Increases funding for Tribal MIECHV to \$36 million in 2021 (3X current funding) and \$48 million in 2022 (4X current funding)
- Requires HHS to provide additional funding to states, tribes, and U.S. Territories for three purposes:
 - To address rising rates of maternal mortality and life-threatening pregnancy complications, particularly in states with a high level of identified need for services
 - To fund unmet need for home visiting services identified in state assessments required under the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018
 - To provide increased allocations to states and U.S. territories based on the most recent data on the proportion of children under age five living in poverty

PLEASE SUPPORT A SENATE COMPANION BILL TO H.R. 4768.