

## HJR57 ENROLLED



1 HJR57

2 11ICD3L-2

3 By Representatives Lands, Clarke, Drummond, Hollis, Hall,  
4 Fidler, Wilcox, Givan, Morris, Warren, McClammy, Boyd, Moore  
5 (M), Ensler, Rafferty, McCampbell

6 RFD: Rules

7 First Read: 27-Jan-26



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

2

3 COMMENDING THE ALABAMA BIRTH EQUITY INITIATIVE FOR ITS  
4 EFFORTS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF EXPECTING MOTHERS THROUGHOUT  
5 THE STATE.

6

7 WHEREAS, Alabama has one of the highest infant and  
8 maternal mortality rates in the United States, and 34  
9 percent of Alabama's counties have been classified as  
10 maternity health care deserts due to a lack of birthing  
11 facilities and prenatal health care providers, which  
12 disproportionately affects rural Alabama and Black and  
13 Indigenous populations; and

14 WHEREAS, the Alabama Birth Equity Initiative is a  
15 Black women-led coalition of reproductive health and mutual  
16 aid organizations who have allied to combat the state's  
17 maternal mortality crisis by building community-centered  
18 solutions, including midwifery training, mobile health, and  
19 policy advocacy to ensure safe, dignified, and equitable  
20 birthing care; they focus on integrated responses to  
21 systemic issues such as medical racism, food insecurity, and  
22 violence; and

23 WHEREAS, in its goal to expand midwifery, the  
24 initiative is launching a midwifery training pilot program  
25 to fund the preceptor training of eight student Certified  
26 Practicing Midwives and two Certified Nurse Midwives at the  
27 Alabama Birth Center in Huntsville and Oasis Women's Health  
28 in Birmingham; the initiative also has plans to advocate for



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29 policy changes that will fund rural birth centers and  
30 increase availability to prenatal care; in addition, the  
31 initiative is planning mobile health units to provide  
32 reproductive health care services in rural communities; and,  
33 with the knowledge that a safe birth starts long before  
34 labor begins, the coalition will address the wraparound  
35 issues of stable housing, reliable transportation, 24-hour  
36 food pantries, and child care support; the initiative wants  
37 women to not just survive childbirth, but to also thrive as  
38 mothers; and

39 WHEREAS, Alabama's maternal health crisis is not just  
40 about a lack of doctors or closed hospitals; it is about the  
41 way policy, poverty, and racism have worked together to make  
42 safe birth a privilege instead of a right; now therefore,

43 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
44 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Alabama Birth Equity  
45 Initiative is highly commended for combining the missions of  
46 its member organizations to address the maternal health  
47 crisis among Alabama's rural, Black, and Indigenous  
48 communities by advocating for policy changes, piloting a  
49 midwife program, instituting the concept of mobile health  
50 units, and addressing the wraparound issues that are a  
51 factor in successful births; we offer this resolution in  
52 support of the initiative, its members, and its mission to  
53 provide prenatal care and safe birthing centers to Alabama's  
54 neglected communities.

