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AMCHP CEO Applauds House Committee's Postpartum Medicaid Extension Policy as "Significant Down Payment" on Congressional Efforts to Improve Maternal Health

Washington, D.C. – Jonathan Webb, MBA, MPH, CEO of the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs, issued the following statement in response to the House Energy and Commerce Committee's [release of legislative text for COVID-19 relief legislation](#) that includes a [provision](#) to support state efforts to extend Medicaid coverage in the postpartum period.

“The COVID-19 relief bill that the House Energy & Commerce Committee will consider this week includes a critically important first step in extending Medicaid coverage for new moms from the current 60 days postpartum to 12 months postpartum. The policy will streamline state efforts to ensure that new moms have access to vital health care coverage and continuity of care in the postpartum period. This is especially critical as so many individuals are experiencing disruptions to their health care coverage due to the pandemic.

“State maternal mortality review committees across the country have identified Medicaid extension in the postpartum period as a foundational policy for addressing our nation's maternal mortality crisis. If enacted, the postpartum Medicaid extension provision in the COVID-19 relief legislation will be a significant down payment on Congress' continued efforts to end preventable maternal death and eliminate racial inequities in maternal health outcomes.”

The House Energy and Commerce Committee will consider the legislation on Thursday, Feb. 11 as part of Congressional efforts to pass budget reconciliation legislation to further address the COVID-19 pandemic.

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AMCHP is the national membership association of state maternal and child health leaders. As an advocate, resource and partner, AMCHP's mission is to protect and promote the optimal health of women, children, and families. We envision a nation that values and invests in the health and well-being of all women, children, families, and communities. For more information, visit www.amchp.org or connect with AMCHP on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

