



December 11, 2018

## **Preventing Maternal Deaths Act Passes House of Representatives!**

We are thrilled to share that the House of Representatives unanimously passed H.R. 1318, the Preventing Maternal Deaths Act, today. We are hearing that the Senate expects to take up and pass the bill soon — after which it would be sent to the President's desk for signature into law. Below, please find AMCHP's press release celebrating passage of H.R. 1318.

The House is also expected to pass S.3029 today to reauthorize the PREEMIE Act, which supports federal research and initiatives to address preterm birth. The PREEMIE Act already passed the Senate, which means it will soon head to the President for his signature into law.

### **AMCHP Tells Congress: Vote to Save Moms' Lives**

*Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs Applauds House Passage of Preventing Maternal Deaths Act, Urges Senate Action*

Dec. 11, 2018, Washington, D.C. — The Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP) applauds the U.S. House of Representatives for passing H.R. 1318, the Preventing Maternal Deaths Act, and urges the Senate to pass the bill as soon as possible.

The bill authorizes a dedicated grant program through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to help save mothers' lives by supporting state maternal mortality reviews.

Through its long history of working with states to establish and strengthen such reviews, AMCHP knows that the best way to reverse the alarming trend in U.S. maternal mortality is to ensure that all states are equipped with the resources they need to understand the reasons for maternal deaths. These reviews examine deaths that occur during pregnancy and within one year after the end of a pregnancy, looking across systems and services to determine why a mother died and to make recommendations to prevent future deaths.

"AMCHP thanks Reps. Jaime Herrera Beutler and Diana DeGette for their leadership in introducing the Preventing Maternal Deaths Act and being tireless advocates for its passage into law," said Jonathan Webb, CEO of AMCHP. "Once all states have adequate resources to expertly review maternal deaths, we can achieve greater success in both honoring the lives of mothers lost and equipping our nation to prevent future deaths during pregnancy and in the following year."

H.R. 1318 has been a top legislative priority of AMCHP, which is proud to have played a leading role in helping to draft the bill, provide ongoing technical assistance, and advocate for its passage. AMCHP urges the Senate to swiftly take up this bill and send it to the president's desk for signature.



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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](http://www.amchp.org) or connect with AMCHP on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

