

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6238

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 21, 2026

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education,
Labor, and Pensions

AN ACT

To establish the IMPROVE Initiative within the National
Institutes of Health.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “NIH Implementing
3 a Maternal health and PRegnancy Outcomes Vision for
4 Everyone Act” or the “NIH IMPROVE Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. IMPROVE INITIATIVE.**

6 Part B of title IV of the Public Health Service Act
7 (42 U.S.C. 284 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
8 the following:

9 **“SEC. 409K. IMPROVE INITIATIVE.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of NIH shall con-
11 tinue to carry out a program to improve maternal health
12 outcomes, to be known as the Implementing a Maternal
13 health and PRegnancy Outcomes Vision for Everyone Ini-
14 tiative or the ‘IMPROVE Initiative’ (referred to in this
15 section as the ‘Initiative’).

16 “(b) OBJECTIVES.—The Initiative shall—

17 “(1) advance research to—

18 “(A) reduce preventable causes of maternal
19 mortality and severe maternal morbidity;

20 “(B) reduce health disparities related to
21 maternal health outcomes, including such dis-
22 parities associated with populations with dis-
23 proportionately high rates of maternal mortality
24 and severe maternal morbidity relative to the
25 national rate; and

1 “(C) improve health for pregnant and
2 postpartum women before, during, and after
3 pregnancy;

4 “(2) use an integrated approach to understand
5 the factors, including biological, behavioral, and
6 other factors, that affect maternal mortality and se-
7 vere maternal morbidity by building an evidence
8 base for improved outcomes in specific regions of the
9 United States; and

10 “(3) target health disparities associated with
11 maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity
12 by—

13 “(A) implementing and evaluating commu-
14 nity-based interventions for disproportionately
15 affected women; and

16 “(B) identifying risk factors and the un-
17 derlying biological mechanisms associated with
18 leading causes of maternal mortality and severe
19 maternal morbidity in the United States.

20 “(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Director of NIH may
21 award grants or enter into contracts, cooperative agree-
22 ments, or other transactions to carry out this section.

1 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$63,400,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 20, 2026.

Attest: KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.