

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 6238
OFFERED BY M . _____**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

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” 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—

1 “(A) reduce preventable causes of maternal
2 mortality and severe maternal morbidity;

3 “(B) reduce health disparities related to
4 maternal health outcomes, including such dis-
5 parities associated with populations with dis-
6 proportionately high rates of maternal mortality
7 and severe maternal morbidity relative to the
8 national rate; and

9 “(C) improve health for pregnant and
10 postpartum women before, during, and after
11 pregnancy;

12 “(2) use an integrated approach to understand
13 the factors, including biological, behavioral, and
14 other factors, that affect maternal mortality and se-
15 vere maternal morbidity by building an evidence
16 base for improved outcomes in specific regions of the
17 United States; and

18 “(3) target health disparities associated with
19 maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity
20 by—

21 “(A) implementing and evaluating commu-
22 nity-based interventions for disproportionately
23 affected women; and

24 “(B) identifying risk factors and the un-
25 derlying biological mechanisms associated with

1 leading causes of maternal mortality and severe
2 maternal morbidity in the United States.

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

6 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
7 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
8 \$63,400,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031.”.

