

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2026

To provide support for programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to the coordination of maternity health care, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 15, 2023

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To provide support for programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to the coordination of maternity health care, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Maternal Health for  
5 Veterans Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SUPPORT FOR MATERNITY HEALTH CARE COORDI-**  
7 **NATION PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
8 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

9 (a) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one  
10 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annu-

1 ally thereafter until September 30, 2028, the Secretary  
2 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Vet-  
3 erans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Vet-  
4 erans' Affairs of the House of Representatives, and make  
5 publicly available, a report that contains the following:

6 (1) A summary of the activities carried out  
7 under the programs of the Department of Veterans  
8 Affairs relating to the coordination of maternity  
9 health care.

10 (2) Data on the maternal health outcomes of  
11 veterans who receive medical care or services fur-  
12 nished at a medical facility of the Department of  
13 Veterans Affairs or by a non-Department of Vet-  
14 erans Affairs health care provider who provides such  
15 care or services to veterans under the laws adminis-  
16 tered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, including  
17 pursuant to the programs specified in paragraph (1).

18 (3) Recommendations by the Secretary of Vet-  
19 erans Affairs to improve the maternal health out-  
20 comes of veterans, with a particular focus on vet-  
21 erans from demographic groups with elevated rates  
22 of maternal mortality, severe maternal morbidity,  
23 maternal health disparities, or other adverse  
24 perinatal or childbirth outcomes.

25 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

1           (1) AUTHORIZATION.—There is authorized to  
2           be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
3           \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024, 2025,  
4           2026, 2027, and 2028, for the programs of the De-  
5           partment of Veterans Affairs relating to the coordi-  
6           nation of maternity health care, including the mater-  
7           nity care coordination program described in Vet-  
8           erans Health Administration Directive 1330.03 (or  
9           any successor directive).

10           (2) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts  
11           authorized under paragraph (1) are authorized in  
12           addition to any other amounts authorized for the co-  
13           ordination of maternity health care for the Depart-  
14           ment of Veterans Affairs.

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