



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB4056

Introduced 5/2/2023, by Rep. Jackie Haas - Norine K. Hammond

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Maternal Health and Well-being Workgroup Act. Sets forth the purpose, findings, and definitions. Requires the Department of Public Health's Office of Women's Health and Family Services' Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health Services to create the Maternal Health and Well-being Workgroup to research and highlight the disparities between maternal health care throughout various geographic areas in the State, as well as work on making recommendations on connecting pregnant women and new mothers, particularly in rural and underserved areas, with resources for the health and well-being of the mother and child. Establishes members, appointments, quorum, meeting frequency, compensation, and administrative support. Requires the Workgroup to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly by July 1, 2025. Dissolves the Workgroup and repeals the Act on January 1, 2027.

LRB103 31895 LNS 60824 b

1 AN ACT concerning health.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Maternal Health and Well-being Workgroup Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to create
7 the Maternal Health and Well-being Workgroup to research and
8 make recommendations on connecting pregnant women and new
9 mothers, particularly in rural and underserved areas, with
10 resources for the health and well-being of the mother and
11 child.

12 Section 10. Findings. The General Assembly hereby finds
13 that:

14 (1) research indicates maternal mortality, severe
15 maternal morbidity, and unexpected outcomes of pregnancy
16 and birth resulting in significant health consequences are
17 rising in the United States, particularly in rural and
18 some urban areas;

19 (2) in 2021, the Department of Public Health reported
20 that each year, an average of 75 women in this State die
21 within 12 months of pregnancy. The leading cause of
22 pregnancy-related death was mental health conditions,

1 including substance use disorders which accounted for 40%
2 of the deaths; and

3 (3) addressing mental health concerns has been
4 identified as a pressing need by the Department of Public
5 Health, the Department of Healthcare and Family Services,
6 the Department of Human Services, and various other
7 commissions, councils, and advisory boards in this State.

8 Section 15. Definitions. As used in this Act:

9 "Department" means the Department of Public Health.

10 "Workgroup" means the Maternal Health and Well-being
11 Workgroup created by this Act.

12 Section 20. Maternal Health and Well-being Workgroup.

13 (a) The Department's Office of Women's Health and Family
14 Services' Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health
15 Services shall create the Maternal Health and Well-being
16 Workgroup to research and highlight the disparities between
17 maternal health care throughout various geographic areas in
18 the State, as well as work on making recommendations on
19 connecting pregnant women and new mothers, particularly in
20 rural and underserved areas, with resources for the health and
21 well-being of the mother and child.

22 (b) The Workgroup shall consist of the following members:

23 (1) the Director of Public Health, or the Director's
24 designee, who shall serve as Chairperson of the Workgroup;

1 (2) the Director of Healthcare and Family Services, or
2 the Director's designee;

3 (3) one member appointed by the President of the
4 Senate;

5 (4) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
6 Senate;

7 (5) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House
8 of Representatives;

9 (6) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
10 House of Representatives;

11 (7) one member representing a hospital located in a
12 county with a population of more than 50,000, appointed by
13 the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

14 (8) one member representing a hospital located in a
15 county with a population of less than 50,000, appointed by
16 the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

17 (c) The Workgroup members shall be appointed on or before
18 July 1, 2024. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as
19 the original appointment.

20 (d) All members are voting members. A quorum shall exist
21 when 5 voting members are present.

22 (e) The first meeting of the Workgroup shall be held at the
23 call of the Chairperson. After the first meeting, the
24 Workgroup shall meet monthly.

25 (f) Members of the Workgroup shall serve without
26 compensation, but may be reimbursed for their expenses

1 incurred in performing their duties.

2 (e) The Department shall provide administrative and other
3 support to the Workgroup.

4 Section 25. Report. By July 1, 2025, the Workgroup shall
5 submit a status report to the Governor and the General
6 Assembly that summarizes the disparities in maternal health
7 care throughout the State, as well as the Workgroup's work and
8 recommendations on the implementation of provisions to connect
9 pregnant women and new mothers, particularly in rural and
10 underserved areas, with resources for the health and
11 well-being of the mother and child.

12 Section 30. Dissolution of Workgroup; repeal. The
13 Workgroup is dissolved, and this Act is repealed, on January
14 1, 2027.