



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2604		DATE: 3/22/2022	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALICIA MIKKELSEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: alimikkelsen@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 11:47 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 11:03 PM
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I am in Support of this Bill and Legislation. There NEEDS to be Continued Coverages for the Mother and the Child.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BILL ANDERSON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-3700	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION		TITLE: VP, STATE LEGISLATION	
ADDRESS: 4712 COUNTRY CLUB DR			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65202
EMAIL: banderson@mhanet.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 5:03 PM	
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: CHLOE OWENS		PHONE NUMBER: 901-488-2125
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI HEALTH CARE FOR ALL		TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 190429		
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63119
EMAIL: chloe@mohealthcareforall.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 4:18 PM

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March 22, 2022 Support Testimony for HB 2604 Missouri Health Care for All In 2019, Missouri ranked 44th in maternal mortality, and our state maintains an average maternal mortality rate that is 40 percent higher than the rest of the country. Maternal mortality is defined as death by pregnancy-related causes and can happen while a woman is pregnant or within one year postpartum. More than half of all maternal deaths happen postpartum, and the twelve weeks — or 84 days — following birth are the most critical time. Missouri's current Medicaid postpartum coverage cut-off puts women at higher risk for health complications by yanking their coverage away before they have fully cleared the window of postpartum complications. By passing HB 2604 and extending Medicaid coverage for new mothers, we are taking a step forward to ensure mothers and their young children get the most support they can during the first year of a baby's life. If we care about children's well-being, we have to care equally about the health and well-being of the adults in children's lives that they depend on. When mothers can't access the care and services they need to get and stay healthy, they cannot do what they need to take care of their children, especially newborns and infants. Infants of mothers who are uninsured are more likely to die than infants of insured mothers, and our state is no exception to this truth. In Missouri, thirteen percent of new mothers in Missouri are uninsured. If HB 2604 is passed, this number can be significantly reduced. Missouri Health Care for All will always support legislation that ensures the people of Missouri have the health coverage we need and deserve. HB 2604 is a step towards achieving this vision, and we strongly urge committee members to vote yes to increase access to health care for new Missouri mothers.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CRAIG STEVENSON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-397-1274	
REPRESENTING: KIDS WIN MISSOURI		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF POLICY & ADVOCACY	
ADDRESS: 814 BERGQUIST			
CITY: BALLWIN		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63011
EMAIL: cstevenson@kidswinmissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 3:53 PM	
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My name is Craig Stevenson and I'm the director of policy and advocacy for Kids Win Missouri. We advocate on issues of child well-being ranging from early childhood education, foster care, health care, and other issues of child well-being. Kids Win Missouri has convened a coalition of partners who have been meeting, researching, and discussing positive policy implications of adopting the postpartum coverage extension. We understand and realize that this policy change positively impacts more than 4,500 mothers each year and can save dozens of lives each year, ensuring that children have healthy mothers to care for them. We appreciate and are grateful for Rep. Patterson, Senators Gannon and Schupp for leading on this important policy change. Missouri has taken steps to support mothers and babies and this continues that pathway. I am happy to answer any questions from the committee and look forward to working with the Committee on its passage.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: GARRETT WEBB		PHONE NUMBER: 219-229-1104
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CHAPTER, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS		TITLE: REGISTERED LOBBYIST
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CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63104
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The Missouri Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics, and our more than 1,000 physicians, trainees, and pediatric providers across the state strongly support the extension of MOHealthNet benefit coverage for postpartum women from two to twelve months.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMIE MORRIS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-7239	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CATHOLIC CONFERENCE		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL	
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CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: morrisj@mocatholic.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 11:17 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA PETRIE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-6092
REPRESENTING: KIDS WIN MISSOURI, CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND, BJC HEALTHCARE (CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL), NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS-MO CHAPTER		TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1605		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JOHN GAMBLE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-821-5225	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI COALITION FOR CHILDREN		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 213 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KAYCEE NAIL		PHONE NUMBER: 314-630-5709	
REPRESENTING: OPERATION FOOD SEARCH		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 684			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: M'EVIE MEAD		PHONE NUMBER: 314-604-7611
REPRESENTING: ADVOCATES OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF THE ST. LOUIS REGION AND SOUTHWEST MO		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 4251 FOREST PARK AVE		
CITY: SAINT LOUIS	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63108
EMAIL: mevie.mead@ppslr.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 4:12 PM
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Tuesday, March 22, 2022To: **House Emerging Issues Committee**From: **M'Evie Mead**
Advocates of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri
mevie.mead@ppslr.org Testimony in Support of **HB 2604** Medicaid coverage offers immense value to pregnant women and mothers, yet data show that this coverage, which currently expires at 60 days postpartum, is woefully insufficient in promoting the optimal health and wellbeing of women at the highest risk of maternal mortality and severe morbidity. Indeed, one in three maternal deaths occur in the postpartum period between one week and one year after delivery. Leading causes of death in this period include heart disease and mental health conditions (i.e. suicide and substance use). Notably, women of color are more likely to have postpartum depression compared to white women, and nearly half of Black women 20 years of age and older have heart disease. Coverage disruptions shortly after pregnancy and delivery restrict access to continuous coverage and critical care necessary to diagnose and treat these conditions. Extending postpartum coverage will yield significant benefits for both those who give birth and the entire family. Extending this coverage will also make strides toward reducing maternal health disparities in Missouri. Advocates of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri strongly urge the committee to advance HB 2604.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MAGGIE OLIVIA EDMONDSON		PHONE NUMBER: 314-368-1137	
REPRESENTING: PRO CHOICE MISSOURI		TITLE: POLICY MANAGER	
ADDRESS: 1210 S VANDEVENTER AVE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63110
EMAIL: maggie@prochoicemissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 10:11 AM	

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HB 2604 Medicaid Postpartum Coverage Extension Chairman Patterson, Vice-Chairman Davidson, members of the committee; thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of HB 2604 which would expand coverage of Medicaid services to pregnant and postpartum Missourians. Pro-Choice Missouri works to protect and expand every Missourian’s right to bodily autonomy, to access essential reproductive healthcare, to access accurate information in order to make the best decisions for ourselves and our families, and to parent our children in safety and dignity. Moreover, we work to ensure reproductive justice for all Missourians, which involves advocating to reduce disparities based on race, income level, insurance coverage status, and other factors. For individuals who want to start or grow their families in Missouri, our state remains one of the most dangerous to give birth; Missouri ranks 44th in the country for maternal mortality and Black birthing parents are 3-4 times more likely to die within a year of pregnancy than their white counterparts. Due to structural racism and implicit bias in medicine, the closure of seven rural hospitals in MO since 2014 and a growing number of people falling in the insurance gap, the maternal and infant mortality rates in MO continue to rival that of still-developing nations. The Missouri Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review 2018 Report, published in 2021, found that the pregnancy-related mortality ratio (PRMR) in Missouri is four times greater for Black women than white women at 87.6 per 100,000 live births. The same review board found that 82% of pregnancy-related deaths in Missouri were “determined to be preventable.” Recommendations for addressing racial and economic disparities in maternal health in Missouri named in the report include increased access to mental health resources throughout pregnancy, increased coverage of postpartum care for low-income mothers and families, and increased uniformity in trauma-informed and culturally competent practices. According to ACOG, “optimal postpartum care provides an opportunity to promote the overall health and well-being of women, and evidence suggests that current care falls short of that goal.” Terminating insurance coverage and benefits access at sixty days postpartum, as current policy requires, restricts new parents and families from receiving sufficient postpartum treatment and support. Research shows that when new parents have access to care, their newborns have better health outcomes too. Every Missourian has the right to access the full range of reproductive health options, including essential postpartum care. By expanding Medicaid coverage to allow low-income pregnant Missourians to access this essential health support for 12 months postpartum, you have an opportunity to increase the health and well-being of all pregnant people and infants in the state. Pro-Choice Missouri, representing more than 70,000 Missourians across the state, supports the advancement of these bills, and urges you to vote YES today on HB 2604 to expand the eligible population and services to improve health outcomes for all Missouri parents and children. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MANDY HAGSETH		PHONE NUMBER: 573-636-4060	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI FAMILY HEALTH COUNCIL, INC.		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF POLICY & ADVOCACY	
ADDRESS: 1909 SOUTHRIDGE DRIVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65110
EMAIL: mhagseth@mfhc.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 4:39 PM	
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We respectfully submit this written testimony to the House Emerging Issues Committee, and ask that it be included as part of the record. We support HB 2604, which modifies provisions relating to MO HealthNet services for pregnant and postpartum women, and urge the Committee to support this measure. We also thank Representative Patterson for his leadership on this issue. Missouri Family Health Council, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization that champions access for every individual to culturally sensitive, quality, sexual and reproductive health education and services. Our programming is focused on removing cost barriers, improving access, and supporting health centers through quality training, analysis, and collaboration. Our health advocacy seeks to address systemic barriers that decrease health equity and impede access to reproductive and other safety-net services. Our statewide network of 85 health centers includes county health departments, federally-qualified health centers, community action agencies, hospital-based clinics, and standalone family planning clinics delivering sexual and reproductive health services throughout Missouri. We work exclusively with safety-net providers and our program services are inextricably linked to MO HealthNet. Last year, our network served over 44,000 patients. Of those, 52% were uninsured and 21% were on Medicaid. We support extending postpartum Medicaid coverage up to one year for the many benefits it would provide to Missourians. Maternal mortality rates in Missouri are double the national average. For Black Missourians, such rates are even higher. The majority of postpartum deaths in the state are occurring after the current 60-day coverage threshold. Increasing postpartum care will improve health outcomes not just for new parents, but also for newborns. HB 2604 would put Missouri in alignment with recommendations from the Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review (PAMR) Board and the Senate Interim Committee on Medicaid Accountability and Taxpayer Protection. This is a bipartisan issue with widespread support. We thank you for the work you do and urge Committee members to vote Do Pass on HB 2604.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MAURA GRAY		PHONE NUMBER: 314-596-1418	
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 460 NORTH LINDBERGH			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63141
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: MISTIE MILLS, MD		PHONE NUMBER: 573-234-2440
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI SECTION ACOG		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65201
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: PATRICIA M. SKAIN		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE		TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 651		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SAMUEL H. LEE		PHONE NUMBER: 314-368-4242	
REPRESENTING: CAMPAIGN LIFE MISSOURI		TITLE: DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 142585			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63114
EMAIL: samuellhlee@mindspring.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/21/2022 9:55 PM	

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Testimony in Favor of Extending MO HealthNet/Show-Me Healthy Babies Coverage for Postpartum Women to One Year After BirthHouse Emerging Issues Committee – March 22, 2022, 5:00 PMSamuel Lee, Director of Campaign Life MissouriWe encourage the House Emerging Issues Committee to vote “do pass” in favor of Rep. Patterson’s HB 2604 and extend coverage for pregnant and postpartum women to one year after birth for those enrolled in MO HealthNet or in the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) (including in Show-Me Healthy Babies health care coverage for unborn babies and their mothers).For most low-income pregnant women currently receiving state medical assistance, their postpartum coverage extends through the last day of the month that includes the 60th day after the birth of the child or the pregnancy ended (see, Family MO HealthNet Manual 1850.040.20 and 1855.030.15).But over the last few years, Missouri lawmakers have overwhelmingly supported legislation that ex-tends coverage to one year postpartum for those women with substance use disorders (SUD), as well as for those women with postpartum depression and related mental health conditions (section 208.151.(20)).There has been bipartisan consensus to extend coverage to pregnant women and their unborn children.Thankfully, provisions in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (H.R.1319) (ARPA) enacted by Congress in March of 2021 now makes it easier for states to extend coverage to all eligible pregnant and postpartum moms who need health care coverage for one year after the birth of their babies.States now have the option (it is permissive, not mandatory) to provide all pregnant women covered under Medicaid or CHIP, continued coverage during the 12-months after birth. The one-year postpartum extension option takes effect on April 1, 2022, and federal funding will be available for five years.Twenty-three states have either allocated matching funds to allow full, postpartum coverage for 12 months when federal funds become available in April, or are seeking a state plan amendment or waiver to do so (see, “Medicaid Postpartum Coverage Extension Tracker,” KFF, March 21, 2022).The Missouri Pregnancy Associated Mortality Review Board last year found that:A majority (63%) of pregnancy-related deaths occurred between 43 days and one year after pregnancy. (See, “Missouri Pregnancy Associated Mortality Review 2018 Annual Report,” Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, June 2021.)But beyond preventing – or at least reducing – maternal mortality, studies have found that extended postpartum coverage for lower income women can help with ongoing medical needs, such as:• Chronic conditions that predate pregnancy or arise because of it requiring ongoing medical care, to improve a woman’s health and reduce chances of complications in future pregnancies; and• Because it is not uncommon for medical professionals to suggest delaying treatment until after delivery, and many women might not receive the care needed within 60 days after childbirth. (See, “Advancing Maternal and Infant Health by Extending the Postpartum Coverage Period,” Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, March 2021.)A woman with a difficult pregnancy who continues full term, might end up with ongoing health problems.

She should be rewarded for choosing life and a future for her baby and herself.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHANE W. BURKS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: seveneventoheaven4@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 5:16 PM
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Missouri has few coverages supporting low-income pregnant woman and even less help during the pregnancy for working woman. Equal Rights for woman should expand to consider woman's bodies and their needs. 1 year of coverage would have been extremely supportive for my wife during our recent labor. The system felt against my wife and I. We both work and the extra coverages that this bill could extend would help woman to be able to support a full nutritional diet so that breastfeeding, postpartum recovery, and the overall health are cared for. It was hard with rising inflation so anything helps especially for the most vulnerable in the state like my wife. She is a hardworking Missouri woman and I support this with her in mind.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHANTEL DOOLING		PHONE NUMBER: 573-353-3828	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 113 MADISON STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MT	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/22/2022 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: TRACY RUSSELL		PHONE NUMBER: 913-523-6736	
REPRESENTING: NURTURE KC		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1111 W. 39TH STREET, SUITE 100			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64111
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Written Testimony in Support of HB 2604 Submitted by Tracy Russell, Executive Director, Nurture KC Chairman Patterson and Members of the Emerging Issues Committee: My name is Tracy Russell and I serve as the Executive Director of Nurture KC, an organization committed to reducing maternal and infant mortality in Kansas City. Nurture KC has 1 of 101 federal Healthy Start programs in the nation and the only urban program in Missouri. Healthy Start utilizes a community health worker model to serve 700 mothers and babies residing in the 14 ZIP codes of Kansas City with the highest rates of infant mortality. Nurture KC enthusiastically supports passage of HB 2604 as a critical first step in addressing the maternal health crisis that exists in Missouri, particularly for Black mothers. In addition, enacting HB 2604 recognizes the importance of women's health outside the narrow window of pregnancy and delivery. The bipartisan support for improving maternal health signals a universal commitment in Missouri to take action against unacceptable rates of maternal morbidity and mortality. This is a health equity issue as Black mothers experience mortality at a rate that is 4 times that of White mothers. Missouri currently ranks 42nd in the nation in maternal mortality. It is estimated that 80% of these deaths are preventable. At the onset of the pandemic, emergency health measures were taken by the federal government allowing those on Medicaid to continue coverage as a necessary and humane approach to extraordinary circumstances. When the emergency directive expires, Missouri reverts to a 60-day limit on postpartum Medicaid coverage as income eligibility guidelines return to pre-pregnancy levels, potentially leaving many of our mothers without access to health care at a critical time. According to the Commonwealth Fund, over half of maternal deaths occur during the postpartum period. This statistic does not include the much more common occurrence of maternal morbidity which the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) asserts happens with 1 in every 173 live births. Missouri has already taken action in recognizing the importance of maternal health by securing a waiver to extend postpartum coverage to mothers suffering from substance use disorders. Let's build on that foundation and provide critical health care to an additional 4,600 Missouri mothers. Thank you to Representative Patterson for introducing this legislation and to the committee for your consideration of this important issue.