



March 4, 2024

Dear Honorable Maryland Legislators,

I am the CEO of the Tinina Q. Cade Foundation (CADE Foundation), a Maryland nonprofit that supports families with infertility and that provides patients and providers education to address and reduce reproductive and maternal health disparities. I write to offer my strong support for the amendment to HB 1051. Black women are at significantly higher risk for poor maternal health and perinatal outcomes compared with the general population and I believe this legislation, which will strengthen HB 1051, will give the state of Maryland (through the Maryland Department of Health) time to create the electronic forms to reduce redundancy and allow all providers seeing particular patients to know in real time about clinical concerns. It will also provide recommendations on workflows for care coordination. This will also ultimately provide a level of transparency so that patients can track which hospitals have preferable outcomes for pregnancy and childbirth and perinatal health care so that they can make informed decisions about where to receive their care.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about my testimony.

Sincerely,

Camille T.C. Hammond, MD, MPH

CEO, CADE Foundation