

Ms. Crystal Martin  
1809 Baffin Street  
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March 4, 2024

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk  
Chair, Health and Government Operations  
Room 241  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: **SUPPORT** for HB 1051 Maryland Maternal Health Act of 2024

Dear Chairperson Pena-Melnyk and Committee Members:

As a constituent of Legislative District 32 and a registered voter, I am writing to express my support for HB 1051. As a mother who experienced a high-risk pregnancy and labor complications, I believe that it is imperative to pass this bill to improve maternal and child health outcomes.

According to the March of Dimes, approximately 700 women die of complications of pregnancy and childbirth every year. Furthermore, Black and Indigenous women are 2 to 3 times more likely to die from complications of pregnancy and childbirth than White women. We are all affected by maternity care prior to birth through postpartum.

Please vote in favor of HB 1051. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposed legislation. Every mother counts.

Sincerely,

*Crystal Martin*