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Re: Maryland Maternal Health Act of 2024 (HB1051/SB1059)

March 4, 2024

Dear Members of the Maryland House of Delegates and State Senate,

I urge you to vote for the Maryland Maternal Health Act of 2024 (HB1051/SB1059). My daughter, Andrea Kolbe, gave birth to a beautiful baby boy on August 24, 2023 having a normal and healthy pregnancy. On December 11, 2023 we lost her to post-partum depression and psychosis due to the lack of maternal health care available to new mothers. This bill is necessary to provide new mothers and their partners with the information and care that is now so insufficient and tragically can culminate in the devastating loss that me and my family have endured.

With the passage of this bill, women will leave the hospital with the information and knowledge that can assist them through the post-partum depression phase, get referrals and assessments so desperately needed and thus reduce the maternal mortality rate in Maryland.

On behalf of my daughter, Andrea, who leaves a baby boy, her husband and the rest of her beloved family in shock and grief, I thank you for giving full consideration to this essential legislation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kolbe