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

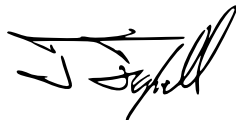
We urge you to vote for the **Maryland Maternal Health Act of 2024** (HB1051/SB1059). According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, the United States has the highest maternal mortality rate among high-income countries. In 2018–2021, Maryland was the 24th state in maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births (National Center for Health Statistics) despite ranking 12th in per capita income in 2022 (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis). This means we can do much better in caring for birthing parents.

For our family, maternal mortality is more than a statistic. Had our friend been given proper mental healthcare after giving birth, she might still be here with us, enriching our lives and caring for her son. By requiring local health departments and certain healthcare providers to provide assessments and referrals about maternal health, HB1051/SB1059 will contribute to reducing maternal mortality in Maryland. Thank you for giving full consideration to this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Felipe Amin Filomeno



Thomas Andrew Foxwell