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HOUSE BILL NO. 823

Offered January 12, 2022 Prefiled January 12, 2022

A BILL to direct the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures to study certain issues related to maternal health.

Patron—Torian

Committee Referral Pending

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. That the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures (the Task Force) shall study (i) the establishment of ongoing bias, racism, and discrimination trainings for all employees in maternity care settings; (ii) the impact of culturally congruent maternity care on maternal health outcomes, specifically for communities of color; (iii) the barriers that prevent women from underserved communities from entering maternity care professions and barriers to equitable compensation; (iv) maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity among incarcerated women with a focus on racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes; (v) models of effective integration of telehealth in maternal health care; (vi) maternal health response within emergency preparedness planning; (vii) the steps necessary to establish an awareness campaign to increase maternal vaccination rates, especially for pregnant people in underserved communities; (viii) the effects of environmental risks on maternal and infant health outcomes; and (ix) the impact of climate change on maternal and infant health. The Task Force shall submit its findings and conclusions to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1, 2022.