

State of Misconsin 2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

2021 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 43

April 20, 2021 - Introduced by Representatives Stubbs, CABRAL-GUEVARA, DRAKE, L. MYERS, HAYWOOD, BOWEN, BALDEH, HONG, CABRERA, HESSELBEIN, NEUBAUER, SINICKI, ANDRACA, CONLEY, SHANKLAND, SNODGRASS, S. RODRIGUEZ, SHELTON, EMERSON, BROSTOFF, HEBL and ANDERSON, cosponsored by Senators Johnson, L. TAYLOR, ROYS, ERPENBACH, CARPENTER and WIRCH. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1	Relating to: dedicating the second week of April to Black maternal health, formally
2	known as Black Maternal Health Week, to acknowledge racial disparities
3	among Black mothers and infants.
4	Whereas, racism is a public health crisis that disproportionately affects Black
5	pregnant people and Black infants; and
6	Whereas, Black infants have two times the infant mortality rate as
7	non–Hispanic whites, and are nearly four times more likely to die from complications
8	as non-Hispanic whites; and
9	Whereas, Black mothers are four times more likely to die from pregnancy as
10	non-Hispanic white mothers, regardless of factors that are associated with greater
11	socioeconomic class, such as higher education; and
12	Whereas, systematic racism, which is prevalent in many health-care systems,
13	prevents Black pregnant people and Black infants from receiving proper care; and

1	Whereas, addressing systematic racism in health care and investing in social
2	determinants of health that improve maternal health outcomes, such as doula care,
3	may improve racial disparities in Black maternal and infant mortality; and
4	Whereas, in addition to investing in doula care, adequate health insurance,
5	infant feeding, and mental health, and providing care to incarcerated pregnant
6	people, dedicating a week to commemorate improving Black maternal health care
7	may bring additional awareness; and
8	Whereas, a Black maternal health week from April 11, 2021, to April 17, 2021,
9	is an appropriate way to begin bringing awareness to an issue that directly affects
10	Black pregnant people and Black infants in our own communities; and
11	Whereas, a Black maternal health week would exemplify the dedication of our
12	elected officials, as well as the dedication of all Wisconsinites, to rectifying the
13	disparities of Black pregnant people and Black infants in the health-care system;
14	now, therefore, be it
15	Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That members of the
16	Wisconsin State Legislature hereby proclaim April 11 to 17 as 2021 Black Maternal
17	Health Week in Wisconsin.

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(END)