

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 345

To establish a national campaign to increase maternal vaccination rates.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

Mr. KAINE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred  
to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To establish a national campaign to increase maternal  
vaccination rates.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Maternal Vaccinations  
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MATERNAL VACCINATION AWARENESS AND EQUITY**  
7 **CAMPAIGN.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
9 Human Services (in this section referred to as the “Sec-  
10 retary”), acting through the Director of the Centers for

1 Disease Control and Prevention, shall carry out a national  
2 campaign to—

3           (1) increase awareness of the importance of ma-  
4           ternal vaccinations for the health of pregnant and  
5           postpartum individuals and their children; and

6           (2) increase maternal vaccination rates, with a  
7           focus on communities with historically high rates of  
8           unvaccinated individuals.

9           (b) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the campaign  
10 under this section, the Secretary shall consult with rel-  
11 evant community-based organizations, health care profes-  
12 sional associations and public health associations, State  
13 public health departments and local public health depart-  
14 ments, Tribal-serving organizations, nonprofit organiza-  
15 tions, and nationally recognized private entities.

16           (c) ACTIVITIES.—The campaign under this section  
17 shall—

18           (1) focus on increasing maternal vaccination  
19           rates in communities with historically high rates of  
20           unvaccinated individuals, including for pregnant and  
21           postpartum individuals from racial and ethnic mi-  
22           nority groups;

23           (2) include efforts to engage with pregnant and  
24           postpartum individuals in communities with histori-  
25           cally high rates of unvaccinated individuals to seek

1 input on the development and effectiveness of the  
2 campaign;

3 (3) provide evidence-based, culturally congruent  
4 resources and communications efforts; and

5 (4) be carried out in partnership with trusted  
6 individuals and entities in communities with histori-  
7 cally high rates of unvaccinated individuals, includ-  
8 ing community-based organizations, community  
9 health centers, perinatal health workers, and mater-  
10 nity care providers.

11 (d) COLLABORATION.—The Secretary shall ensure  
12 that the information and resources developed for the cam-  
13 paign under this section are made publicly available and  
14 shared with relevant Federal, State, and local entities.

15 (e) EVALUATION.—Not later than the end of fiscal  
16 year 2025, the Secretary shall—

17 (1) establish quantitative and qualitative  
18 metrics to evaluate the campaign under this section;  
19 and

20 (2) submit a report detailing the impact of the  
21 campaign under this section to Congress.

22 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

23 (1) MATERNITY CARE PROVIDER.—The term  
24 “maternity care provider” means a health care pro-  
25 vider who—

1           (A) is a physician, physician assistant,  
 2           midwife who meets at a minimum the inter-  
 3           national definition of the midwife and global  
 4           standards for midwifery education as estab-  
 5           lished by the International Confederation of  
 6           Midwives, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse  
 7           specialist; and

8           (B) has a focus on maternal or perinatal  
 9           health.

10          (2) PERINATAL HEALTH WORKER.—The term  
 11          “perinatal health worker” means a doula, commu-  
 12          nity health worker, peer supporter, breastfeeding  
 13          and lactation educator or counselor, nutritionist or  
 14          dietitian, childbirth educator, social worker, home  
 15          visitor, language interpreter, or navigator.

16          (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry  
 17          out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated  
 18          \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

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