ANNA Supports the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021 (H.R. 959 and S. 346)

The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) is a nonprofit organization with a membership of over 8,500 registered nurses and other health care professionals at all levels of practice. ANNA members work in settings such as chronic kidney disease management, peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis, continuous renal replacement therapy, transplantation, industry, and government and regulatory agencies.

The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021

Representative Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14) introduced the House bill (H.R. 959) on February 8, 2021 with 82 original cosponsors. Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) introduced the Senate version of the bill (S. 346) with 20 original cosponsors. The Black Maternal Health Momnibus is composed of 12 individual bills and builds on existing legislation to address key dimensions of the maternal health crisis in America. ANNA joins with the Nursing Community Coalition in encouraging Members of Congress to cosponsor the bill. The legislation includes the following:

- Establish a task force to develop a strategy addressing social determinants of maternal health and investing in community-based organizations to improve black maternal health outcomes.

- Provide maternity care coordination, training and support for pregnant and postpartum veterans, including mental and behavioral health conditions.

- HHS to issue and disseminate guidance to educate providers, managed care entities, and other insurers about the value and process of delivering respectful maternal health care through diverse and multidisciplinary care models.

- Improve data collection processes and quality measures to better understand the causes of the maternal health crisis in the United States and inform solutions to address it.

- Integrate telehealth tools that allow for screening, monitoring, and management of common health complications during pregnancy.

- Establish and implement, the Perinatal Care Alternative Payment Model Demonstration Project, to test payment models for maternity care provided to pregnant and postpartum moms from racial and ethnic groups.

- Invest in community-based initiatives to reduce levels of and exposure to climate change-related risks for moms and babies.

- Conduct or support data collection, surveillance, and research on maternal health as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Information for this fact sheet comes from the legislation. If you have questions about these issues, please contact ANNA’s Health Policy Consultant Jim Twaddell (202) 230-5130 or jim.twaddell@faegredrinker.com).