



November 22, 2019

The Honorable Robin Kelly
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael Burgess, MD
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Kelly and Burgess:

On behalf of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), which represents 134,600 family physicians and medical students across the country, I write to express our appreciation for the *Helping Medicaid Offer Maternity Services Act* (HR 4996).

This legislation, if enacted into law, will help address postpartum complications such as infections, bleeding, and other chronic health conditions that put women's lives at risk. HR 4996 would allow states to extend Medicaid coverage for women for a year after giving birth. Research [indicates](#) that Medicaid expansion has had a positive impact on maternal health and for reducing racial health disparities. Therefore, we believe this proposal can significantly help reduce maternal mortalities and morbidities.

The AAFP is committed to helping improve maternal health outcomes. We welcome the opportunity to work with you to advance these and other maternal health proposals. For more information, please contact Sonya Clay, Government Relations Representative, at 202-232-9033 or sclay@aafp.org.

Sincerely,

John S. Cullen, MD, FAAFP
Board Chair

Cc: House Energy & Commerce Committee Chair Frank Pallone and Ranking Member Greg Walden

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