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June 4, 2020

Dear Representatives Crawley and Hudson-Hicks,

I am writing in support of House Bill 611. The disparity in maternal and infant morbidity and mortality cannot be adequately addressed without listening to the voice of Black women. Black women are telling us that they desire the support and partnership of doulas. I am confident that if this initiative is done correctly as outlined in your bill that it will contribute to the effort to close the disparity gap.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Kelly MD MS

Executive Vice Chair and Professor