



3333 Burnet Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45229
T 513.218.8111
www.cradlecincinnati.org

Sen. Dave Burke
Chairman
Senate Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee
9.21.2020

Senator Burke:

Cradle Cincinnati writes you in support of SB326, SB 327, and SB328 and their significant efforts to improve health outcomes tied to infant mortality rates in Ohio. Cradle Cincinnati is a collective impact collaborative that has helped reduce infant mortality in Hamilton County, OH to the lowest rate in the county's history this past year.

We are grateful to the co-sponsors, Senators Kunze, Antonio, and Maharath for introducing these bills. As such, we write to the Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee of the Ohio Senate to express our support.

Our work has shown doula services to have a positive impact on birth outcomes. Most recently we have even begun discussing a partnership with CareSource that seeks increase access to doulas for mothers in Hamilton County. Time and time again women in our community tell us that a doula is the reason their pregnancy and birth went so well. We also feel that continuing education for birthing facility personnel will help improve equity and reduce peripartum racial and ethnic disparities.

Lastly, we have had much success in making change by raising awareness. Designating May as "Maternal Mortality Awareness Month" will help to raise this issue to a heightened level in the public's consciousness; thereby creating momentum to make significant change.

We look forward to these bills moving out of committee so that they can be passed as law in the State of Ohio.

Respectfully,

Ryan Adcock
Executive Director
Cradle Cincinnati