

## As Introduced

**136th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2025-2026**

**H. C. R. No. 12**

**Representatives Somani, Ray**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Lawson-Rowe, Synenberg, Piccolantonio, Sweeney,  
Brent, Brennan, White, E., Mohamed, Rader, Robb Blasdel, McNally, Hall, D.**

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### **A C O N C U R R E N T   R E S O L U T I O N**

Recognizing the importance of perinatal mental health.

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#### **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, Depression and other mental health conditions are  
the most common complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and the  
postpartum period; and

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WHEREAS, The perinatal period, from pregnancy through the  
first year postpartum, is a transitional period that can result  
in anxiety and stress; and

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WHEREAS, Perinatal stress, anxiety, and depression can  
adversely impact the physical and psychological health of women  
and their children; and

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WHEREAS, According to the American College of Obstetricians  
and Gynecologists, up to 85% of women experience some type of  
mood disturbance during the postpartum period; and

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WHEREAS, One in five mothers develop more significant  
symptoms of depression or anxiety, including obsessive-  
compulsive disorder, panic disorder, and post-traumatic stress  
disorder; and

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WHEREAS, According to the Cleveland Clinic, postpartum  
psychosis affects between one and two per 1000 mothers, often  
develops rapidly, and may place the life of the mother and  
infant in danger related to its symptoms, which may include  
delusions, hallucinations, severe mood symptoms, and cognitive  
symptoms; and

WHEREAS, According to the Ohio Department of Health's  
Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review Program, mental health  
conditions are currently the leading cause of pregnancy-related  
deaths in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Mental health conditions affect mothers and  
mothers-to-be of all races, ages, and socioeconomic levels; and

WHEREAS, Pregnant and parenting women with untreated mental  
health issues experience higher rates of infant and maternal  
mortality, family fragmentation, lack of prenatal care, low  
social support, financial and housing instability, co-occurring  
health complications, unmanageable job strain, difficulty  
meeting maternal role expectations, and childhood or perinatal  
trauma, including domestic and sexual abuse; and

WHEREAS, The societal impact of perinatal mental health  
conditions is pervasive, with far-reaching consequences on early  
childhood development, pediatric mental health, and general  
family well-being; and

WHEREAS, Undiagnosed and untreated perinatal mental health  
conditions are a silent health crisis in the United States,  
deserving recognition and action to save lives and improve the  
health and well-being of America's mothers, babies, fathers,  
families, and the community; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, recognize the importance of  
perinatal mental health and are supportive of a coordinated

approach to address pressing challenges and drive change to 49  
support improved maternal and birth outcomes in Ohio; and be it 50  
further 51

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 52  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, encourage Ohio's continued 53  
investment in programs that provide support to pregnant women 54  
and newly parenting mothers; and be it further 55

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 56  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, encourage communication with moms 57  
to speak with their health care providers and peers about their 58  
experiences and drive better mental health outcomes; and be it 59  
further 60

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 61  
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 62  
news media of Ohio. 63