

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.**

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