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**Black Maternal Health and Wellness**

**COMMITTEE: Health (HEA) RESOLUTION:** HEA-19-03

1. **WHEREAS,** numerous health disparities currently exist for Black Women in
2. America; and
3. **WHEREAS, Black women in the United States experience poor maternal health**
4. **outcomes, including disproportionately high rates of death related to pregnancy**
5. **or childbirth; and**
6. **WHEREAS, maternal** death is defined as "The death of a woman while pregnant
7. or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and
8. the site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the
9. pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental or incidental causes; and
10. **WHEREAS, Black women are more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes**
11. **than women in any other race group; and**
12. **WHEREAS, maternal deaths are a serious public health concern and have a**
13. **tremendous family and societal impact; and**
14. **WHEREAS, reports have indicated that a lack of access to quality of care are**
15. **leading factors, particularly among women in lower socioeconomic levels; and**
16. **WHEREAS, maternal deaths are significantly underestimated and inadequately**
17. **documented, preventing efforts to identity and reduce or eliminate the causes of**
18. **death; and**
19. **THEREFORE,** **BE IT RESOLVED**, that NOBEL Women will provide each
20. state with model language to create legislation for the review of maternal
21. mortality and to create prevention strategies; and
22. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that members of this body will go to their
23. respective legislative chambers and develop legislation requesting the appropriate
24. state agencies to review maternal deaths; and
25. **THEREFORE,** BE IT RESOLVED, that NOBEL Women will work to
26. encourage their colleagues to enact such legislation in their respective states; and
27. **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that NOBEL Women members impress upon
28. their state agencies to address the factors contributing to poor pregnancy
29. outcomes for Black women and facilitate state system changes to improve the
30. health of women before, during, and after pregnancy.
31. The American Heart Association:

<https://www.heart.org/en/news/2019/02/20/why-are-black-women-at-such-high-risk-of-dying-from-pregnancy-complications>