March 9, 2020

The Honorable Lauren Underwood   The Honorable Alma Adams
U.S. House of Representatives   U.S. House of Representatives
1118 Longworth House Office Building   2436 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515   Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Underwood and Adams:

On behalf of the Nation's frontline physician organizations, representing nearly 600,000 physicians and medical students dedicated to advancing the health and wellbeing of our patients, we write to thank you for your steadfast leadership on behalf of the Black Maternal Health Caucus to introduce your Momnibus and your dedication to eliminating racial health disparities and preventable maternal deaths through thoughtful policymaking.

The rates of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity in the United States are unacceptable and we share in the Caucus' deep concerns with the stark racial and ethnic disparities in these health outcomes. As you know, differences in outcomes result from many factors including in access to and delivery of quality health care. We appreciate your efforts to improve the provision of culturally sensitive care through strong collaboration with physicians and a focus on ensuring all women receive high quality, individualized, and respectful care. Your leadership and work to advance evidence-based policies to improve care and outcomes for Black and American Indian/Alaska Native women, in particular, energize our collective efforts to promote equity in the health care system.

As leaders in medicine, we are committed to advancing public policies that help eliminate racial disparities and improve women's health. We look forward to continued partnership with you and the Caucus to advance evidence-based policies that accomplish our shared goal of eliminating preventable maternal mortality.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American Osteopathic Association
American Psychiatric Association