

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

H.B. 558  
Apr 3, 2023  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH50028-LGa-75C

Short Title: Funds for Maternal Health Programs. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Hawkins.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT  
3 MATERNAL HEALTH IN BLACK COMMUNITIES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of State  
6 Budget and Management the sum of one million two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$1,250,000)  
7 in nonrecurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to provide directed grants in equal amounts  
8 to the following nonprofit organizations:

- 9 (1) Equity Before Birth to supplement the income of mothers in the absence of  
10 paid parental leave and to cover the cost of essential services and support.  
11 These funds will help decrease maternal and infant mortality by helping those  
12 who are disproportionately impacted: Black mothers, birthing people, and  
13 their infants.  
14 (2) MAAME (Mobilizing African American Mothers through Empowerment),  
15 Inc., to fill the gap of services that exists for marginalized communities who  
16 are in between poverty and financial stability. These funds shall be used to  
17 provide services to mothers who are not eligible to receive public services and  
18 support and not able to afford these resources privately. MAAME will provide  
19 education (as a means of empowerment), support, doula services, and  
20 opportunities for economic advancement.  
21 (3) Momma's Village-Fayetteville, Inc., to assist the organization with providing  
22 access to African-centered birth and breastfeeding support, postpartum care,  
23 and parenting education and mental health resources for Black families in  
24 Fayetteville and the surrounding Sandhills region.  
25 (4) Jace's Journey, Inc., to support the organization's programs that address racial  
26 disparities in maternal health outcomes.  
27 (5) Sistas Caring 4 Sistas, Inc., to assist the organization in providing doula  
28 services for birthing individuals and their families in the Buncombe County  
29 area.

30 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2023.

