

S 1710

Perinatal Workforce Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 18, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (May 18, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1710>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** WI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 18, 2023
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		May 18, 2023
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Oct 17, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 18, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3305	Related bill	May 19, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
118 HR 3523	Related bill	May 19, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
118 S 1606	Related bill	May 15, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Perinatal Workforce Act

This bill establishes programs and requires research to diversify the perinatal workforce and advance respectful maternal care delivery models.

Specifically, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) must award grants to education and training programs to grow and diversify the professions that make up the perinatal workforce. HHS must also disseminate guidance on respectful maternal care delivery. This guidance must cover, among other topics, recruiting and retaining maternity care providers from diverse backgrounds and incorporating trained midwives and other perinatal health workers into maternity care teams.

In addition, the National Institutes of Health must study best practices for culturally and linguistically congruent maternity care. This is care that is in agreement with the preferred cultural values, beliefs, languages, worldview, and practices of health care consumers and other stakeholders.

The Government Accountability Office must also report on certain aspects of perinatal health care professions. The report must focus on barriers to entering those professions for low-income and minority women.

Actions Timeline

- **May 18, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 18, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.