

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-33
OFFERED BY MS. UNDERWOOD OF ILLINOIS

At the end of subtitle B of title XVII, add the following:

1 **SEC. 17___ . IMPROVE INITIATIVE.**

2 Part B of title IV of the Public Health Service Act
3 (42 U.S.C. 284 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
4 the following:

5 **“SEC. 409K. IMPROVE INITIATIVE.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of NIH shall con-
7 tinue to carry out a program to improve maternal health
8 outcomes, to be known as the Implementing a Maternal
9 health and PRegnancy Outcomes Vision for Everyone Ini-
10 tiative or the ‘IMPROVE Initiative’ (referred to in this
11 section as the ‘Initiative’).

12 “(b) OBJECTIVES.—The Initiative shall—

13 “(1) advance research to—

14 “(A) reduce preventable causes of maternal
15 mortality and severe maternal morbidity;

16 “(B) reduce health disparities related to
17 maternal health outcomes, including such dis-
18 parities associated with populations with dis-

1 proportionately high rates of maternal mortality
2 and severe maternal morbidity relative to the
3 national rate; and

4 “(C) improve health for pregnant and
5 postpartum women before, during, and after
6 pregnancy;

7 “(2) use an integrated approach to understand
8 the factors, including biological, behavioral, and
9 other factors, that affect maternal mortality and se-
10 vere maternal morbidity by building an evidence
11 base for improved outcomes in specific regions of the
12 United States; and

13 “(3) target health disparities associated with
14 maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity
15 by—

16 “(A) implementing and evaluating commu-
17 nity-based interventions for disproportionately
18 affected women; and

19 “(B) identifying risk factors and the un-
20 derlying biological mechanisms associated with
21 leading causes of maternal mortality and severe
22 maternal morbidity in the United States.

23 “(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Director of NIH may
24 award grants or enter into contracts, cooperative agree-
25 ments, or other transactions to carry out this section.

1 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$63,400,000 for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2032.’.

