



Reach Every Mother and Child Act (S. 1451)

The Problem:

- Although the global number of deaths of mothers and children under 5 have been nearly cut in half in the last 25 years, **approximately 800 women still die every day from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth.** This number is amplified due to the effects of COVID-19, as an **estimated 56,700 additional maternal deaths could occur over a six-month period without intervention.**
- An estimated total of **6,000 additional children under 5 could die per day due to the impact of COVID-19 on health care systems.** The lack of available health services due to the secondary consequences of the pandemic is widely acknowledged, as **68% of countries reported interference in health checks for children and immunization services.**
- The risk of a woman dying in childbirth is 47 times higher in Africa than in the U.S. and it is projected that **more than 17,000 children under 5 years old will die each day of treatable conditions.**

The Solution: The bipartisan Reach Every Mother and Child Act will strengthen the U.S. government's efforts to end the preventable deaths of mothers, newborns and young children in developing countries by:

- **requiring a five-year, comprehensive strategy** with specific, measurable goals to end preventable maternal, newborn and child deaths by 2030;
- designating a current U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) employee to serve as the **Child and Maternal Survival Coordinator**, focused on implementing strategies to ensure that the most effective interventions are scaled up in target countries;
- encouraging the executive branch to develop a **financing framework** to leverage commitments from the private sector, nonprofits, partner countries and multinational organizations;
- requiring an **annual report to Congress** on progress made, ensuring that U.S. taxpayer resources are being efficiently invested

Supporters:

- The bill was introduced in the Senate by Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) along with Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE), to help improve the health of mothers and children through providing vaccines, clean birthing practices and nutritional supplements.
- A previous version of the bill (S.1766) gained strong bipartisan support in the 116th session, with 31 co-sponsors in the Senate.