

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, TANIA FERNANDES ANDERSON, JULIA MEJIA, BREADON, COLETTA, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF APRIL 11TH
TO 17TH AS BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK

WHEREAS, Black women in the United States experience maternal mortality rates that are three to four times higher than those of white women, a disparity that exists regardless of income or education level, and are disproportionately affected by life-threatening maternal health conditions like preeclampsia, postpartum hemorrhage, and blood clots, alongside a higher incidence of pregnancy-related complications such as preterm birth and low birth weight; *and*

WHEREAS, The Black Maternal Health Week initiative was founded and led by the Black Mamas Matter Alliance, dedicated to awareness, activism, and community-building, aiming to amplify the voices, perspectives, and lived experiences of Black mothers and birthing people *and*

WHEREAS, Black Maternal Health Week is an opportunity to engage in dialogue, share knowledge, and take action to address the health disparities that require a multifaceted approach including but not limited to increasing access to quality pre-natal and post-natal care, reducing medical bias and racism in healthcare delivery, and supporting community-based solutions; *and*

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' M.O.M.S. (Maternal Outcomes Matter Showers) Tour is coming to Boston and exemplifies a successful model for improving maternal health outcomes by connecting thousands of women, men, and children to essential health services, through community engagement, access to resources, and support for pregnant and postpartum individuals;

WHEREAS, Black Maternal Health Week serves as a reminder of the ongoing need to build a health care system that is inclusive, equitable, and responsive to the needs of all mothers, especially those most at risk; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council recognize the week of April 11th to 17th as Black Maternal Health Week, and commit to supporting legislation and policies that address the maternal health crisis among Black women and reduce disparities in maternal health outcomes.