

Title 26.  
Chapter 6C.  
(Recodify and  
Rename)  
Chapter 18.  
Maternal and  
Infant Care  
C.26:18-1  
to 26:18-16  
(P.L.2019, c.75,  
§§1-12, 14-17,  
formerly  
C.26:6C-1 to  
26:6C-16)  
§§1-10,16-18  
C.26:18-17  
to 26:18-29  
§19  
Approp.

P.L. 2023, CHAPTER 109, *approved July 17, 2023*  
Senate, No. 3864 (*Second Reprint*)

- 1    **AN ACT** concerning maternal health care, supplementing Title 26 of  
2       the Revised Statutes <sup>2</sup>**【and】** ,<sup>2</sup> amending P.L.2019, c.75 <sup>2</sup> , and  
3       making an appropriation<sup>2</sup> .  
4  
5       **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6       *of New Jersey:*  
7  
8       1. (New section) This act shall be known and may be cited as  
9       the “New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center  
10      Act.”  
11  
12      2. (New section) The Legislature finds and declares that:  
13      a.   In 2019, New Jersey Governor Philip D. Murphy and First  
14      Lady Tammy Snyder Murphy launched Nurture NJ, a Statewide  
15      campaign committed to both reducing maternal and infant mortality  
16      and morbidity and ensuring equitable <sup>1</sup>access to and provision of<sup>1</sup>  
17      care among women and children of all races and ethnicities.  
18      b.   At the time, New Jersey was ranked as low as 47th in the  
19      United States for maternal deaths and had one of the widest racial  
20      disparities for both maternal and infant mortality.

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.  
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:  
<sup>1</sup>Senate SHH committee amendments adopted June 15, 2023.  
<sup>2</sup>Senate SBA committee amendments adopted June 27, 2023.

- 1       c. Such inequities are particularly evident in our capital city of  
2 Trenton, which experiences the highest maternal and infant health  
3 disparities among our Black and Hispanic communities. The City  
4 of Trenton is among the cities with the highest rates of Black and  
5 Hispanic infant mortality; <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup> only 47 percent of mothers in  
6 Trenton receive prenatal care in their first trimester.
- 7       d. In January 2021, the Nurture NJ Strategic Plan included a  
8 recommendation to establish a <sup>1</sup>**["Center"]** center<sup>1</sup> in the State  
9 capital, Trenton, that focuses on innovation and research in  
10 maternal and infant health through <sup>1</sup>**["partnerships"]** collaboration<sup>1</sup>  
11 with the State's academic, <sup>1</sup>**["funder"]** philanthropic<sup>1</sup>, business, and  
12 faith communities in partnership with the New Jersey Economic  
13 Development Authority, the Departments of Health, Human  
14 Services, and Children and Families, and the Office of the Secretary  
15 of Higher Education.
- 16       e. In order to create, fund, and sustain such a facility, <sup>1</sup>**["and"]**<sup>1</sup>  
17 to ensure that substantial commitments are made to its related  
18 activities, <sup>1</sup>and to position New Jersey to acknowledge and act upon  
19 the health disparities and harm wrought by racism and other forms  
20 of systemic oppression that have created a public health crisis for  
21 Black and Hispanic mothers and their babies,<sup>1</sup> it is necessary to  
22 create an authority independent of any supervision or control by the  
23 principal departments of the Executive Branch of the State  
24 Government.
- 25       f. The authority will operate a Trenton-based New Jersey  
26 Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center, and will collaborate  
27 with other State departments and agencies to advance maternal and  
28 infant health care and clinical services throughout the State, and  
29 lead the State's coordination, promotion, and implementation of <sup>1</sup>,  
30 among other things,<sup>1</sup> education, policymaking, research, innovation,  
31 <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup> perinatal workforce development <sup>1</sup>**["and more"]**<sup>1</sup>, with a  
32 particular focus on eliminating racial disparities in maternal and  
33 infant health outcomes.
- 34       g. The New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation  
35 Center will serve as the first-of-its kind central hub to coordinate  
36 among national, State <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> and local agencies, <sup>1</sup>**["and"]** as well as<sup>1</sup>  
37 private organizations <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> to <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> promote equitable maternal and  
38 infant health care services; <sup>1</sup>**["to"]**<sup>1</sup> implement strategies related to  
39 health care and social service delivery, perinatal workforce  
40 development, community engagement, data collection, research,  
41 and analysis; and <sup>1</sup>**["to"]**<sup>1</sup> serve as an incubator of new enterprises,  
42 therapeutics, and technological innovations leading to better health  
43 outcomes and reduced mortality and morbidity rates for women and  
44 children.
- 45       h. The New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation  
46 Center will be at the forefront of serving <sup>1</sup>**["the"]**<sup>1</sup> maternal and

infant health care needs, not only <sup>1</sup> **["of the"]** for<sup>1</sup> families <sup>1</sup> **["and"]**  
residing in<sup>1</sup> the City of Trenton, but also <sup>1</sup> **["of"]** for families  
throughout<sup>1</sup> the State of New Jersey and the nation, and will enable  
 collaborative partnerships for research and knowledge transfer  
 within the global maternal and infant health <sup>1</sup> **["community"]**  
communities<sup>1</sup> .

3. (New section) As used in this act:

“Authority” means the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health  
 Innovation Authority established pursuant to <sup>1</sup> section 4 of<sup>1</sup> P.L. ,  
 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

“Board” means the board of the New Jersey Maternal and Infant  
 Health Innovation Authority established pursuant to <sup>1</sup> section 5 of<sup>1</sup>  
 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

“Center” means the <sup>1</sup> **["New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health**  
**Innovation Center for"]** premises located in the City of Trenton used  
by<sup>1</sup> the authority <sup>1</sup> **["of this act"]** pursuant to the provisions of P.L. ,  
c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)<sup>1</sup> .

<sup>1</sup> “Community advisory committee” means the community  
advisory committee established pursuant to section 8 of P.L. ,  
c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

<sup>1</sup> “New Jersey Maternal Care Quality Collaborative” or<sup>1</sup>  
“NJMCQC” means the New Jersey Maternal Care Quality  
Collaborative, established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2019, c.75  
(C.26:6C-3).

4. (New section) <sup>1</sup> a.<sup>1</sup> The New Jersey Maternal and Infant  
 Health Innovation Authority is created and established in, but not  
 of, the Department of the Treasury <sup>1</sup> **["**, to:

a. assume the role as <sup>1</sup> **["** ,

b. The authority shall:

(1) establish and oversee the New Jersey Maternal and Infant  
Health Innovation Center, which shall serve as a central hub to  
coordinate among national, State, and local agencies, as well as  
private organizations, to:

(a) provide perinatal, infant care, related health services, and  
other services as outlined in P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before  
the Legislature as this bill) to the residents of the City of Trenton  
and others who are in need of such services;

(b) promote equitable maternal and infant health care services;

(c) implement strategies related to health care and social service  
delivery, perinatal workforce development, community  
engagement, data collection, research, and analysis; and

(d) serve as an incubator of new enterprises, therapeutics, and  
technological innovations leading to better health outcomes and  
reduced mortality and morbidity rates for women and children; and

(2) be responsible for overseeing the design and implementation of programs and services to improve the State's maternal and infant health outcomes, address racial disparities in maternal and infant mortality rates, ensure infant and perinatal care is provided on an equitable basis, and eliminate disparities in access to care, including, but not limited to, health care and social service delivery, research and innovation, perinatal workforce development, education and public awareness, and other initiatives as may be undertaken by the authority.

c. The authority shall become<sup>1</sup> the <sup>1</sup>["primary authority"] agency primarily<sup>1</sup> responsible for coordinating <sup>1</sup>["all"]<sup>1</sup> efforts and strategies to reduce maternal mortality, morbidity, and racial and ethnic disparities in the State <sup>1</sup>["pursuant to P.L. 2019, c.75 (C.26:6C-1 et seq.) from the NJMCQC for the further development of equitable maternal and infant health care services, data collection, research, analysis, and innovation. Except<sup>1</sup> at such time as the members of the board are appointed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.

c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) and the board first organizes. At that time, and except<sup>1</sup> as otherwise provided by this act, all powers, duties, and responsibilities authorized pursuant to P.L.2019, c.75 (C.26:6C-1 et <sup>1</sup>["seq."] al.<sup>1</sup> ) shall be transferred from the NJMCQC to the authority <sup>1</sup>["at such time as the members of the board and its initial president and chief executive officer are appointed as provided in P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) and the board first organizes"]<sup>1</sup> . Thereafter, the NJMCQC shall be reorganized within the authority and shall operate under the supervision and oversight of the board as <sup>1</sup>["set forth"] provided<sup>1</sup> in <sup>1</sup>section 5 of<sup>1</sup> P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The provisions of this subsection shall be carried out in accordance with the "State Agency Transfer Act," P.L.1971, c.375 (C.52:14D-1 et seq.) <sup>1</sup>;<sup>1</sup> and <sup>1</sup>the transfer of oversight over the NJMCQC<sup>1</sup> shall include <sup>1</sup>transfer of<sup>1</sup> all files, books, papers, records, equipment, and other property or resources held by the NJMCQC, including, <sup>1</sup>["without limitation"] but not limited to<sup>1</sup> , any State funds that have been appropriated to the Department of Health for the exclusive use of the NJMCQC, which shall be deposited in accounts as may be permitted or required by law <sup>1</sup>["; and

b. oversee the design and implementation of programs and services that advance the State's maternal and infant health outcomes, address racial disparities for maternal and infant mortality rates, ensure equitable care, and fill gaps in access to care, including, but not limited to, health care and social service delivery, research and innovation, perinatal workforce development, education and public awareness, and other initiatives undertaken by the authority"]<sup>1</sup> .

1        5. (New section) a. The authority shall be governed by a board  
 2 consisting of <sup>1</sup>the following<sup>1</sup> 15 members <sup>1</sup>, including seven ex-  
 3 officio members and eight public members, who shall be appointed  
 4 by the Governor no later than the 120th day after the effective day  
 5 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
 6 bill)<sup>1</sup> as follows:

7        (1) <sup>1</sup>five<sup>1</sup> the Commissioner of Health, the Chief Executive  
 8 Officer of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, the  
 9 Commissioner of Human Services, the Commissioner of Banking  
 10 and Insurance, the Commissioner of Children and Families, the  
 11 Secretary of Higher Education, and the Commissioner of Labor, or  
 12 their designees, who shall serve ex officio; and

13        (2) eight<sup>1</sup> public members to be appointed by the Governor <sup>1</sup>,  
 14 two of which shall be selected by the Governor to serve as the chair  
 15 and vice-chair of the community advisory committee set forth in  
 16 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill);

17        (2) one public member to be appointed by the Governor upon the  
 18 recommendation of the Mayor of Trenton;

19        (3) one public member appointed by the Governor upon the  
 20 recommendation of the Senate President;

21        (4) one public member appointed by the Governor upon the  
 22 recommendation of the Speaker of the General Assembly;

23        (5) the Commissioner of Health, ex officio;

24        (6) the Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Economic  
 25 Development Authority, ex officio;

26        (7) the Commissioner of Human Services, ex officio;

27        (8) the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, ex officio;

28        (9) the Commissioner of Children and Families, ex officio;

29        (10) the Secretary of Higher Education, ex officio; and

30        (11) the Commissioner of Labor, ex officio<sup>1</sup> as follows:

31        (a) one public member appointed upon the recommendation of  
 32 the Mayor of Trenton;

33        (b) one public member appointed upon the recommendation of  
 34 the Senate President in consultation with the New Jersey Black,  
 35 Latino, and Asian-American Legislative Caucuses;

36        (c) one public member appointed upon the recommendation of  
 37 the Speaker of the General Assembly in consultation with the New  
 38 Jersey Black, Latino, and Asian-American Legislative Caucuses;

39        (d) five additional public members. Subject to the requirements  
 40 of subsection d. of section 8 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
 41 before the Legislature as this bill), the Governor shall select one of  
 42 the public members appointed pursuant to this subparagraph to  
 43 serve as the chairperson of the community advisory committee  
 44 established pursuant to section 8 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
 45 before the Legislature as this bill) and one of the public members  
 46 appointed pursuant to this subparagraph to serve as the vice-  
 47 chairperson of the community advisory committee<sup>1</sup>.

1       b. <sup>1</sup>Each ex officio member of the authority may designate an  
 2 officer or employee of the member's department to represent the  
 3 member at meetings of the authority, and each such designee may  
 4 lawfully vote and otherwise act on behalf of the member for whom  
 5 the person constitutes the designee. Any such designation shall be  
 6 in writing delivered to the authority and shall continue in effect  
 7 until revoked or amended by writing delivered to the authority.

8       c. A] In appointing public members to the board, the Governor  
 9 shall seek to ensure that, to the extent possible, a<sup>1</sup> majority of the  
 10 <sup>1</sup>board's public members <sup>1</sup>shall have relevant experience in  
 11 one or more of the following areas related to maternal, infant <sup>1</sup>  
 12 and childhood health care <sup>1</sup>, with the goal of ensuring the board  
 13 includes representative experience in as many of these areas as is  
 14 possible<sup>1</sup> : obstetrics <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; neonatal care <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; perinatal clinical  
 15 services <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; family planning <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; perinatal workforce  
 16 development <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; education <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; research and innovation <sup>1</sup>[.]  
 17 <sup>1</sup>; community health work <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; social services <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; public  
 18 health awareness <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; leadership <sup>1</sup>[.] <sup>1</sup>; doula care; midwifery  
 19 care;<sup>1</sup> and other relevant experience <sup>1</sup>, including lived experience,<sup>1</sup>  
 20 related to racial disparities affecting delivery of health care services  
 21 <sup>1</sup>[.]<sup>1</sup> and mortality and morbidity rates. <sup>1</sup>The public members  
 22 shall have relevant experience in different areas.

23       d. In the selection of] In addition, when appointing<sup>1</sup> public  
 24 members to the board<sup>1</sup> , <sup>1</sup>a strong effort shall be made to solicit]  
 25 the Governor shall seek to appoint<sup>1</sup> women and minorities <sup>1</sup>as  
 26 candidates for appointment to the board] who have been most  
 27 acutely impacted by maternal and infant health disparities, with a  
 28 particular focus on Black and Latina women and on women residing  
 29 in Trenton<sup>1</sup> , <sup>1</sup>including] and with additional focus on Black and  
 30 Latina<sup>1</sup> women who have given birth within the last three years.

31       <sup>1</sup>e. The terms of the public members of the board shall be for]  
 32 c. The public members initially appointed to the board shall be  
 33 appointed no later than 120 days after the effective date of P.L. ,  
 34 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
 35 public members shall serve for a term of<sup>1</sup> five years or until their  
 36 successors are appointed, except that <sup>1</sup>;<sup>1</sup> of the <sup>1</sup>appointments  
 37 first made to the board] of the public members first appointed to the  
 38 board<sup>1</sup> , two shall serve for one year, three shall serve for two years,  
 39 and three shall serve for five years. <sup>1</sup>The successors to the initially  
 40 appointed members shall each be appointed for a term of five years,  
 41 except that any person appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve only  
 42 for the unexpired term. Except for the two board members  
 43 appointed to serve as chair and vice-chair of the community  
 44 advisory committee, the board members] Vacancies in the public  
 45 membership shall be filled for the duration of the unexpired term.

1 Public members shall be eligible for reappointment to the board.  
2 The public members of the board shall receive an annual salary of  
3 \$20,000. The ex officio members of the board and their designees,  
4 if any,<sup>1</sup> shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed  
5 for <sup>1</sup>【necessary】 reasonable<sup>1</sup> expenses incurred in the performance  
6 of their <sup>1</sup>official<sup>1</sup> duties, within the limits of funds appropriated or  
7 otherwise made available to the <sup>1</sup>【Authority for its purposes】  
8 authority for this purpose. The public members appointed to serve  
9 as chairperson and vice-chairperson of the community advisory  
10 committee pursuant to subparagraph (d) of paragraph (2) of  
11 subsection a. of this section shall be entitled to receive the stipend  
12 authorized pursuant to subsection e. of section 8 of P.L. \_\_\_\_\_,  
13 c. (C. \_\_\_\_\_) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)<sup>1</sup> . <sup>1</sup>【A  
14 member may be reappointed to a second or subsequent term.  
15 f. Each member <sup>1</sup>d. Public members<sup>1</sup> appointed by the  
16 Governor may be removed from the <sup>1</sup>【position】 board<sup>1</sup> by the  
17 Governor. Each member, before entering upon the member's  
18 duties, shall take and subscribe an oath to perform the duties of the  
19 office faithfully, impartially, and justly to the best of the member's  
20 ability. A record of these oaths shall be filed in the office of the  
21 Secretary of State.  
22 <sup>1</sup>【g.】 e.<sup>1</sup> The Governor shall annually select a <sup>1</sup>【chair】  
23 chairperson<sup>1</sup> and <sup>1</sup>【vice-chair】 vice-chairperson<sup>1</sup> from among the  
24 members of the board, at least one of <sup>1</sup>【which】 whom<sup>1</sup> shall be the  
25 Commissioner of Health <sup>1</sup>【or】 , the<sup>1</sup> Commissioner of Human  
26 Services <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> or <sup>1</sup>【their】 a<sup>1</sup> designee. The <sup>1</sup>【chair】 chairperson<sup>1</sup>  
27 shall coordinate the activities of the board. In the event that the  
28 chairperson <sup>1</sup>position<sup>1</sup> is vacant <sup>1</sup>or the chairperson is absent from a  
29 meeting of the board<sup>1</sup> , the <sup>1</sup>【vice-chair】 vice-chairperson<sup>1</sup> shall act  
30 as <sup>1</sup>【chair】 chairperson<sup>1</sup> of the board <sup>1</sup>【until the chair position is no  
31 longer vacant】<sup>1</sup> .  
32 <sup>1</sup>【h.】 f.<sup>1</sup> No member of the board, or officer, employee, or agent  
33 of the <sup>1</sup>【Authority】 authority<sup>1</sup> , shall take any official action on any  
34 matter in which such person has a direct or indirect personal  
35 financial interest.  
36 <sup>1</sup>【i.】 g.<sup>1</sup> A majority of the board members shall constitute a  
37 quorum <sup>1</sup>【at any meeting thereof】 for the purposes of conducting  
38 official business<sup>1</sup> . The board may take action upon the affirmative  
39 vote of a majority of <sup>1</sup>the<sup>1</sup> members present. No vacancy in the  
40 membership of the board shall impair the right of a quorum to  
41 exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the board. A  
42 true copy of the minutes of every meeting of the board shall be  
43 delivered to the Governor. No action taken at such meeting by the  
44 board shall have force or effect until approved by the Governor or  
45 until 10 days after such copy of the minutes shall have been  
46 delivered. If, in this 10-day period, the Governor returns the copy

1 of the minutes with a veto of any action taken by the board or any  
 2 member thereof at the meeting, such action shall be null and of no  
 3 effect. The Governor may approve all or part of the action taken at  
 4 such meeting prior to the expiration of the 10 day period.

5 **1[j.] h.**<sup>1</sup> The board shall **1[convene meetings including, but not**  
 6 **limited to,]** meet on a monthly basis and at the call of the chair, and  
 7 shall additionally meet on a<sup>1</sup> quarterly 1basis<sup>1</sup> with the community  
 8 advisory committee established pursuant to 1section 8 of<sup>1</sup> P.L. ,  
 9 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) for  
 10 **1[purposes]** the purpose<sup>1</sup> of receiving guidance and feedback  
 11 related to the purposes of the authority and this act.

12 **1[k.] i.**<sup>1</sup> The board shall have the **1[following powers]** power  
 13 to<sup>1</sup> :

14 (1) **1[To]**<sup>1</sup> engage with, collaborate, and coordinate efforts  
 15 among maternal and infant health care stakeholders <sup>1,1</sup> including,  
 16 but not limited to, State and federal agencies **1[,]**<sup>1</sup> and public and  
 17 private organizations <sup>1,1</sup> to advance the purposes of the authority  
 18 and any of its programs and services **1[;]**<sup>1</sup> foster collective action  
 19 **1[;]**<sup>1</sup> and review progress on improving health outcomes;

20 (2) **1[To]**<sup>1</sup> promote, support, and fund perinatal workforce  
 21 development, trainings, certifications, education, research, and  
 22 innovation efforts, including <sup>1,1</sup> but not limited to <sup>1,1</sup> issuing  
 23 requests for proposals or requests for qualifications for projects that  
 24 advance the purposes of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
 25 Legislature as this bill); providing grants or extending credit,  
 26 including, but not limited to, loans, to private companies, private  
 27 and public organizations, or individuals for projects that advance  
 28 the purposes of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
 29 Legislature as this bill); entering into agreements and contracts; and  
 30 establishing a workforce hub to host research, trainings, and  
 31 guidance;

32 (3) **1[To]**<sup>1</sup> commission, publish, and collaborate on research  
 33 studies within the State, **1[country]** national<sup>1</sup> , and **1[in the global]**  
 34 international<sup>1</sup> maternal and infant health **1[community]**  
 35 communities<sup>1</sup> ;

36 (4) **1[To]**<sup>1</sup> collect, analyze, and disseminate data related to  
 37 maternal and infant health, in collaboration with the New Jersey  
 38 Maternal Data Center **1[at]** in<sup>1</sup> the Department of Health, with a  
 39 particular focus **1[upon]** on<sup>1</sup> racial disparities in outcomes,  
 40 perinatal workforce needs, and development of resources;

41 (5) **1[To]**<sup>1</sup> provide grants or competition prizes and host an  
 42 innovation incubation space to encourage the development of  
 43 solutions to problems facing the maternal and infant health care  
 44 services industry;

45 (6) **1[To]**<sup>1</sup> enter into 1the<sup>1</sup> membership **1[in]** of<sup>1</sup> other  
 46 organizations or coalitions;



1 (7) **<sup>1</sup>["To"]** oversee the community advisory committee  
 2 established pursuant to <sup>1</sup>section 8 of<sup>1</sup> P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
 3 before the Legislature as this bill) and to establish and oversee any  
 4 other committees <sup>1</sup>, which may include, but shall not be limited to,  
 5 an executive committee or a nominating committee,<sup>1</sup> as **<sup>1</sup>["may be**  
 6 **deemed"]** the board deems<sup>1</sup> necessary;

7 (8) **<sup>1</sup>["To"]** adopt, amend, and repeal bylaws for the regulation of  
 8 its affairs and the conduct of its business, including, but not limited  
 9 to, protections against undue influence or quid pro quo transactions  
 10 relating to the receipt of contributions from private sources;

11 (9) **<sup>1</sup>["To"]** adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the  
 12 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
 13 seq.) <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> to effectuate the provisions of P.L. , c. (C. )  
 14 (pending before the Legislature as this bill);

15 (10) **<sup>1</sup>["To"]** adopt and have a seal and alter the same at its  
 16 pleasure;

17 (11) **<sup>1</sup>["To"]** sue and be sued;

18 (12) **<sup>1</sup>["To"]** conduct meetings and public hearings in connection  
 19 with the purposes of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
 20 Legislature as this bill);

21 (13) **<sup>1</sup>["To"]** enter into contracts upon those terms and conditions  
 22 as the authority determines to be reasonable to effectuate the  
 23 purposes of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as  
 24 this bill);

25 (14) **<sup>1</sup>["To"]** hire staff as necessary to support the authority's  
 26 operations;

27 (15)<sup>1</sup> employ consultants, contractors and specialists in the  
 28 perinatal workforce development, education, research, and  
 29 innovation, and other fields as may be required in the judgment of  
 30 the board to effectuate the purposes of **<sup>1</sup>["this act"]** P.L. \_\_\_\_\_,  
 31 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)<sup>1</sup>, and to  
 32 fix and pay their compensation from funds available therefor, all  
 33 without regard to the provisions of Title 11A of the New Jersey  
 34 Statutes;

35 **<sup>1</sup>["(15) To"]** (16)<sup>1</sup> contract for and to accept any gifts or grants or  
 36 loans of funds or property or financial or other aid in any form from  
 37 the United States of America or any agency or instrumentality  
 38 thereof, or from the State or any agency, instrumentality <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> or  
 39 political subdivision thereof, or from any beneficiary of a State or  
 40 federal grant, or from any other public or private source, including  
 41 private companies and individuals, and to comply with the terms  
 42 and conditions thereof;

43 **<sup>1</sup>["(16) To"]** (17)<sup>1</sup> solicit contributions from public and private  
 44 entities for any of its corporate purposes;

45 **<sup>1</sup>["(17) To"]** (18)<sup>1</sup> maintain an office located in the City of  
 46 Trenton for the **<sup>1</sup>["Center of the authority"]** operations of the center<sup>1</sup> ,

1 and any other satellite offices at such <sup>1</sup>place or<sup>1</sup> places within the  
 2 State as the board may designate;

3 <sup>1</sup>[(18) To] (19)<sup>1</sup> acquire, purchase, develop, manage and  
 4 operate, <sup>1</sup>hand old<sup>1</sup> handle,<sup>1</sup> and dispose of real and personal  
 5 property or interests therein, <sup>1</sup>to<sup>1</sup> acquire an equity interest in any  
 6 corporation, and take assignments of rentals and leases and make  
 7 and enter into all contracts, leases, agreements and arrangements  
 8 necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties, including,  
 9 but not limited to, the leasing of premises to tenants within the  
 10 <sup>1</sup>center including, but not limited to, <sup>1</sup>center's offices to<sup>1</sup> licensed  
 11 health care facilities and providers that offer maternal, infant and  
 12 pediatric health care services, childbirth education, <sup>1</sup>lactation  
 13 education and support services,<sup>1</sup> parenting and early childhood  
 14 education institutions, county colleges, independent New Jersey-  
 15 based public-mission institutions that receive State operating aid,  
 16 food and nutrition consultants and support programs, family  
 17 planning services, <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup> behavioral health and other social  
 18 service providers <sup>1</sup>, and such other entities as the board deems  
 19 appropriate<sup>1</sup> ;

20 <sup>1</sup>[(19) To] (20)<sup>1</sup> procure insurance against any losses in  
 21 connection with its property, operations <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> or assets in such  
 22 amounts and from such insurers as it deems desirable;

23 <sup>1</sup>[(20) To] (21)<sup>1</sup> enter into any agreements necessary to provide  
 24 for its establishment, operation, and financial support, including  
 25 memoranda of understanding with other State entities;

26 <sup>1</sup>[(21) To create] (22) establish or assume control over<sup>1</sup> a  
 27 nonprofit entity as <sup>1</sup>set forth in<sup>1</sup> authorized under section 9 of<sup>1</sup>  
 28 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
 29 bill); and

30 <sup>1</sup>[(22) To] (23)<sup>1</sup> do any and all things necessary or convenient  
 31 to carry out its purposes and exercise the powers granted in <sup>1</sup>this  
 32 act<sup>1</sup> P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
 33 bill)<sup>1</sup> .  
 34

35 6. (New section) <sup>1</sup>The<sup>1</sup> a. The authority shall employ a<sup>1</sup>  
 36 president and chief executive officer <sup>1</sup>, who<sup>1</sup> shall be responsible  
 37 for the selection of properly qualified staff of the authority, without  
 38 regard to the provisions of Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes.  
 39 <sup>1</sup>A strong effort shall be made<sup>1</sup> In selecting staff for the authority,  
 40 the president and chief executive officer shall seek<sup>1</sup> to recruit  
 41 women and minorities to serve as the authority's staff. Staff  
 42 members shall receive compensation and be appointed and  
 43 employed as provided by the president and chief executive officer,  
 44 without regard to the provisions of Title 11A of the New Jersey  
 45 Statutes. The president and chief executive officer and all staff  
 46 members of the center <sup>1</sup>and of the authority<sup>1</sup> shall be deemed

1 confidential employees for the purposes of the “New Jersey  
2 Employer-Employee Relations Act,” P.L.1941, c.100 (C.34:13A-1  
3 et seq.).

4 <sup>1</sup>b. The president and chief executive officer of the authority  
5 shall be an individual selected by a majority vote of the members of  
6 the board; except that the Governor shall select the initial president  
7 and chief executive officer of the authority. The president and chief  
8 executive officer shall receive an annual salary as provided by the  
9 board. The board shall have the authority to consider, investigate,  
10 and evaluate any and all matters or issues relevant to the  
11 performance of the president and chief executive officer.<sup>1</sup>

12  
13 7. (New section) a. <sup>1</sup>~~【All】~~ Except as provided in subsection b. of  
14 this section, all<sup>1</sup> purchases, contracts, or agreements made pursuant  
15 to P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)  
16 shall be made or awarded directly by the authority <sup>1</sup>~~【, only】~~<sup>1</sup> after  
17 public advertisement for bids <sup>1</sup>~~【therefor】~~ , which shall be  
18 submitted<sup>1</sup> in the manner provided by the authority <sup>1</sup>~~【and】~~ <sup>1</sup>  
19 notwithstanding the provisions of any other <sup>1</sup>~~【laws】~~ law<sup>1</sup> to the  
20 contrary.

21 b. <sup>1</sup>~~【Any】~~ A<sup>1</sup> purchase, contract, or agreement may be made,  
22 negotiated, or awarded by the authority without public bid or  
23 advertising under the following circumstances:

24 (1) When the aggregate amount involved does not exceed the  
25 amount set forth in, or the amount calculated by the Governor  
26 pursuant to, section 2 of P.L.1954, c.48 (C.52:34-7), unless other  
27 State law sets forth a lower bid threshold in a particular case, in  
28 which case the lower threshold shall apply. The authority may not  
29 divide a contract into multiple proposed contracts in order to take  
30 advantage of this exception and shall, if invoking this exception,  
31 certify that it has not done so and <sup>1</sup>~~【must】~~<sup>1</sup> maintain a record of  
32 that certification;

33 (2) In cases of unforeseen life, safety, or health emergencies  
34 where the public exigency requires that services or products be  
35 purchased immediately;

36 (3) To acquire subject matter which is described in section 4 of  
37 P.L.1954, c.48 (C.52:34-9);

38 (4) To make a purchase or award or make a contract or  
39 agreement under the circumstances described in section 5 of  
40 P.L.1954, c.48 (C.52:34-10);

41 (5) When the contract to be entered into is for the furnishing or  
42 <sup>1</sup>~~【performing】~~ performance<sup>1</sup> of services of a professional or  
43 technical nature, including legal services, provided that the contract  
44 shall be made or awarded directly by the authority;

45 (6) Where a firm has brought an innovative idea to the authority,  
46 a request for proposals cannot be constructed without

1 communicating the new idea, and the procurement would not  
2 benefit from a competitive selection process;

3 (7) When the authority has advertised for bids and has received  
4 no bids in response to its advertisement, or received no responsive  
5 bids. Any purchase, contract, or agreement may then be negotiated  
6 and may be awarded to any contractor or supplier determined to be  
7 responsible, as "responsible" is defined in section 2 of P.L.1971,  
8 c.198 (C.40A:11-2), provided that the terms, conditions,  
9 restrictions, and specifications set forth in the negotiated contract or  
10 agreement are not substantially different from those which were the  
11 subject of competitive bidding; and

12 (8) When a purchase is to be made through or by the Director of  
13 the Division of Purchase and Property 'in the Department of the  
14 Treasury' pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1959, c.40 (C.52:27B-56.1).

15  
16 8. (New section) a. The board shall coordinate with a  
17 community advisory committee to support and inform the work of  
18 the authority. The community advisory committee shall consist of  
19 11 members '[and shall be comprised of representatives of]  
20 representing' diverse community groups with relevant experience  
21 as '[either]' providers '[or recipients]' of maternal, infant '.' and  
22 childhood health care services 'or as recipients of maternal health  
23 care services, with a preference for individuals who received  
24 maternal health care services within the past three years' .

25 b. The members of the community advisory committee shall be  
26 appointed by the Governor ', who shall consider any recommended  
27 candidates presented by the board. The board may solicit  
28 applications for candidates to the advisory committee in order to  
29 inform its recommendations to the Governor<sup>1</sup>. '[The term of the  
30 committee] Committee' members shall '[be] serve' for 'a term of'  
31 three years, except that '.' of the '[appointments first made]  
32 committee members first appointed' to the committee, five shall  
33 serve for 'a term of' one year and six shall serve for 'a term of' two  
34 years. The successors to the initially appointed members shall each  
35 be appointed for a term of three years, except that any person  
36 appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve only for the unexpired term.  
37 'The members of the community advisory committee shall be  
38 eligible for reappointment to the committee.'

39 c. The '[chair and vice-chair] chairperson and vice-  
40 chairperson' of the community advisory committee shall be  
41 'annually' selected 'by the Governor' from among the 'public  
42 members of the' board '[of the Authority by the Governor]'  
43 pursuant to 'subparagraph (d) of paragraph (2) of subsection a. of  
44 section 5 of' P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature  
45 as this bill). The '[chair] chairperson' shall coordinate the  
46 activities of the community advisory committee. In the event that

1 the **'[chair] chairperson'** position is vacant **'or the chairperson is**  
 2 **absent from a meeting of the community advisory committee'** , the  
 3 **'[vice-chair] vice-chairperson'** shall act as **'[chair] chairperson'** of  
 4 the committee **'[until the chair position is no longer vacant]'** .

5 d. Four members of the community advisory committee,  
 6 including either the **'[chair or vice-chair] chairperson or vice-**  
 7 **chairperson'** of the community advisory committee, shall be  
 8 residents of the City of Trenton with **'[backgrounds] background'**  
 9 as either a mother with personal experience in receiving perinatal  
 10 services in Trenton or **'as'** a community stakeholder. The remaining  
 11 members of the community advisory committee shall be residents of  
 12 municipalities in different geographic regions of the State with the  
 13 highest rates of Black and Hispanic infant mortality, and shall have  
 14 backgrounds as **'[a mother] mothers'** with personal experience in  
 15 receiving perinatal services or **'[a] as'** community **'[stakeholder]**  
 16 **stakeholders.'**

17 e. The committee members shall receive an annual stipend of  
 18 \$20,000, to be paid in increments as determined by the board.

19

20 9. (New section) a. To effectuate any of its authorized purposes  
 21 **'.'** either directly or indirectly, **'and'** in addition to any powers  
 22 granted to it elsewhere in this act, the **'[board] authority'** shall  
 23 **'[have the authority] be authorized'** to form or assume control of  
 24 one or more nonprofit entities, in the manner and for the purposes  
 25 set forth in this section.

26 **'[b.]'** A nonprofit entity **'established pursuant to this section'**  
 27 may be **'[formed] established'** pursuant to the **'provisions of the'**  
 28 "New Jersey Nonprofit Corporation Act," N.J.S.15A:1-1 et seq.

29 **'[c. The] b. A'** nonprofit entity **'established or over which**  
 30 **control is assumed pursuant to this section'** shall have the power to:

31 (1) conduct fundraising activities to solicit funding from public  
 32 and private organizations to be used in support of maternal and  
 33 infant health services, social services, perinatal workforce  
 34 development, education, research, and innovation in the State; and

35 (2) establish, sponsor, and operate membership, including the  
 36 ability to generate revenue from members **'[;] of the nonprofit**  
 37 **entity.'**

38 **'[d.] c.'** The **'[authority] board'** and any nonprofit entities  
 39 created or **'over which control is'** assumed by the **'[authority]**  
 40 **board pursuant to this section'** may enter into any agreements  
 41 necessary to provide for the establishment, operation, and financial  
 42 support of the authority and each nonprofit entity.

43 **'[e. The] d. A'** nonprofit **'[entities] entity established or over**  
 44 **which control is assumed pursuant to this section'** may be organized  
 45 and operated in such a manner as to be eligible under applicable

1 federal law for tax-exempt status and for the receipt of tax-  
2 deductible contributions **‘[ , and ]’**.

3 e. A nonprofit entity established or over which control is  
4 assumed pursuant to this section<sup>1</sup> shall be authorized to sue and to  
5 be sued as a legal entity separate from the State of New Jersey.

6 f. No member or employee of **‘[the] a’** nonprofit **‘established**  
7 **or over which control is assumed pursuant to this section**<sup>1</sup> shall  
8 engage in any **‘for profit’** business transaction or professional  
9 activity **‘[for profit]’** with the authority.

10 g. All funds received by a nonprofit entity formed **‘or over**  
11 **which control is assumed**<sup>1</sup> pursuant to this section, other than those  
12 necessary to pay for the expenses of the nonprofit **‘entity’**<sup>1</sup>, shall be  
13 used exclusively for the support of the authority.  
14

15 10. (New section) a. The authority **‘[is] established pursuant to**  
16 **section 3 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature**  
17 **as this bill) shall be**<sup>1</sup> entitled to call to its assistance, and avail itself  
18 of, the services of employees of any State, county **‘, ’** or municipal  
19 department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it may require  
20 and as may be available to it for its purposes. All departments,  
21 **‘boards, bureaus, commissions, and’** agencies **‘[ , and divisions]’**<sup>1</sup>  
22 are authorized and directed, to the extent not inconsistent with law,  
23 to cooperate with the authority.

24 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any State law, rule, or  
25 regulation to the contrary, the authority may direct State  
26 **‘departments, boards, bureaus, commissions, and’** agencies **‘[or**  
27 **authorities]’**<sup>1</sup> to report any data collected or maintained by such  
28 **‘[agency] entity’**<sup>1</sup> related to maternal and infant health care, social  
29 determinants of health, clinical services, and any other information  
30 that may advance the purposes of the authority, as deemed  
31 necessary by the authority, and such data shall be provided by the  
32 reporting **‘[agency or authority] entity’**<sup>1</sup> on an annual basis, or at  
33 such times as otherwise requested by the authority. Nothing in this  
34 section shall require the disclosure of information when such  
35 disclosure would violate any provision of federal law, rule, or  
36 regulation.

37 c. Except as provided in subsection d. of this section, the  
38 information required pursuant to subsection b. of this section shall  
39 be provided by the reporting **‘[agency or authority] entity’**<sup>1</sup> in such  
40 manner as may be necessary to protect against the disclosure of any  
41 confidential or personal identifying information of any individual.

42 d. In the event the authority requests that a reporting **‘[agency]**  
43 **entity’**<sup>1</sup> provide data that includes any confidential or personal  
44 identifying information of any individual, such data shall be kept  
45 confidential by the authority consistent with any applicable State  
46 and federal law, rule, or regulation.

1        11. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.75 (C.26:6C-1) is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3        1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

4        a. Most nations across the globe have successfully reduced  
5 their maternal mortality rates over the past two and a half decades,  
6 in response to a United Nations' call to action; however, the U.S. is  
7 one of only a handful of countries where maternal mortality rates  
8 have continued to rise (increasing by 27 <sup>1</sup>**[%]** percent<sup>1</sup> between  
9 2000 and 2014);

10       b. The U.S. is currently ranked 50th in the world in maternal  
11 mortality, with a rate of maternal death that is nearly three times the  
12 rate that exists in the United Kingdom, and about six times the rate  
13 that exists in the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden;

14       c. In New Jersey, there is currently a Maternal Mortality Case  
15 Review Team that operates out of the Department of Health (DOH),  
16 and <sup>1</sup>**['which']** periodically reviews and provides statistics on  
17 maternal deaths occurring in the State;

18       d. A document produced by Every Mother Counts shows that  
19 New Jersey is ranked 46th of the 50 states in total maternal  
20 mortality, with a rate of 37.3 maternal deaths per every 100,000 live  
21 births <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> and <sup>1</sup>that<sup>1</sup> African-American women in New Jersey are  
22 five times more likely than <sup>1</sup>**['their white counterparts']** Caucasian  
23 women<sup>1</sup> to die from pregnancy-related complications;

24       e. <sup>1</sup>**['While']** Although<sup>1</sup> the DOH Maternal Mortality Case  
25 Review Team produces important statistical data, the team is not  
26 permanently established by statute, does not meet regularly,  
27 produces only periodic reports on maternal mortality, and uses  
28 varying datasets in those periodic reports, making the aggregation  
29 and comparison of data by interested parties more difficult;

30       f. There is a need to coordinate and expand the multiple,  
31 fractionalized maternal mortality and morbidity reduction efforts  
32 being conducted by caring and committed individuals and  
33 organizations across the State. Further, it is essential to house these  
34 myriad efforts in the <sup>1</sup>**['Department of Health']** DOH<sup>1</sup>, the State-  
35 designated agency responsible for public health protection and  
36 services. The DOH can uniquely leverage the weight and power of  
37 the State to effectuate critical changes in the delivery of care and  
38 the implementation of Statewide strategies to reduce maternal  
39 mortality and morbidity and to eliminate the racial and ethnic  
40 disparities in maternal outcomes;

41       g. To coordinate and support a Statewide strategy to reduce  
42 maternal morbidity and mortality, the State <sup>1</sup>**['should establish']**  
43 hereby establishes<sup>1</sup> a New Jersey Maternal Care Quality  
44 Collaborative (NJMCQC);

45       h. To improve data collection and to improve and assist quality  
46 improvement efforts by health care facilities and the State, a

1 Maternal Data Center <sup>1</sup>~~【should be】~~ is hereby<sup>1</sup> established within  
2 the Healthcare Quality and Informatics Unit in the DOH;

3 i. <sup>1</sup>~~【United States Senate Bill No. 1112, introduced in the~~  
4 115th Congress, would establish a federal grant program to assist  
5 states in establishing and sustaining state-level maternal mortality  
6 review committees; however, a state will only be eligible to obtain a  
7 grant under this bill if the state's maternal mortality review  
8 committee satisfies certain specific requirements, as articulated in  
9 S.1112】 ~~(deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. ) (pending before the~~  
10 Legislature as this bill)<sup>1</sup> ; and

11 j. In order to ensure that the entity reviewing maternal deaths  
12 in the State may operate permanently and sustainably, with full  
13 statutory authority, in adherence to certain specified powers and  
14 responsibilities <sup>1</sup>~~【, and in a manner that would enable the State to~~  
15 obtain federal grant funds under S.1112 or other similar federal  
16 legislation】<sup>1</sup> , it is both reasonable and necessary for the Legislature  
17 to replace the existing informal DOH Maternal Mortality Case  
18 Review Team with a statutorily-established Maternal Mortality  
19 Review Committee <sup>2</sup>situated in the Department of Health<sup>2</sup> ,  
20 <sup>1</sup>~~【situated in the Department of Health and overseen by the~~  
21 ~~【NJMCQC】 Department of Health,】~~<sup>1</sup> which committee will  
22 incorporate the membership of the current Maternal Mortality Case  
23 Review Team, but will have formal statutory authority, broader  
24 powers, and specific goals and directives, as necessary to ensure  
25 that it is able to continuously engage in the comprehensive, regular,  
26 and uniform review and reporting of maternal deaths throughout the  
27 State.

28 (cf: P.L.2019, c.75, s.1)

29

30 <sup>1</sup>12. Section 2 of P.L.2019, c.75 (C.26:6C-2) is amended to read  
31 as follows:

32 2. As used in ~~【this act】~~ P.L.2019, c.75 (C.26:6C-1 et al.):

33 “Authority” means the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health  
34 Innovation Authority established pursuant to section 4 of P.L. ,  
35 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

36 “Board” means the board of the New Jersey Maternal and Infant  
37 Health Innovation Authority established pursuant to section 5 of  
38 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

39 "Committee" means the Maternal Mortality Review Committee,  
40 established pursuant to section 4 of ~~【this act】~~ P.L.2019, c.75  
41 (C.26:6C-4), which is responsible for annually reviewing and  
42 reporting on maternal death rates and the causes of maternal death  
43 in the State, and which is further responsible for providing  
44 recommendations to improve maternal care and reduce adverse  
45 maternal outcomes.

46 "Department" means the Department of Health.

47 "Maternal death" means a pregnancy-associated death.



1 "Maternal Mortality Case Review Team" means the  
2 interdisciplinary team of experts that is operating in the Department  
3 of Health as of the effective date of this act, and which is being  
4 replaced by the committee established pursuant to this act.

5 "NJMCQC" means the New Jersey Maternal Care Quality  
6 Collaborative, established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2019, c.75  
7 (C.26:6C-3).

8 "Pregnancy-associated death" means the death of a woman,  
9 which occurs while the woman is pregnant, or during the one-year  
10 period following the date of the end of the pregnancy, irrespective  
11 of the cause of death.

12 "Pregnancy-related death" means the death of a woman, which  
13 occurs while the woman is pregnant, or during the one-year period  
14 following the date of the end of the pregnancy, regardless of the  
15 duration of the pregnancy, and which results from any cause related  
16 to, or aggravated by, the pregnancy or its management, but  
17 excluding any accidental or incidental cause.

18 "Regional Health Hub" means an entity designated as a Regional  
19 Health Hub as provided in P.L.2019, c.517 (C.30:4D-8.16 et seq.).

20 "Report of maternal death" means a report of a suspected  
21 maternal death, which is filed with the department, pursuant to the  
22 processes established under subsection a. of section 7 of **[this act]**  
23 P.L.2019, c.75 (C.26:6C-7), and which is to be forwarded to the  
24 committee for the purposes of investigation, as provided by  
25 subsection b. of that section.

26 "Severe maternal morbidity" means the physical and  
27 psychological conditions that result from, or are aggravated by,  
28 pregnancy, and which have an adverse effect on the health of a  
29 woman.

30 "State registrar" means the State registrar of vital statistics, who  
31 is responsible for supervising the registration of, and maintaining,  
32 death records in the State, in accordance with the provisions of  
33 R.S.26:8-1 et seq.<sup>1</sup>

34 (cf: P.L.2019, c.75, s.2)

35  
36 <sup>1</sup>**[12.] 13.** Section 3 of P.L.2019, c.75 (C.26:6C-3) is amended  
37 to read as follows:

38 3. a. There is hereby established in <sup>2</sup>**[<sup>1</sup>, but not of,<sup>1</sup>]<sup>2</sup>** the  
39 Department of Health <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> the New Jersey Maternal Care Quality  
40 Collaborative (NJMCQC) <sup>1</sup>**[in]** . Until the conditions set forth in  
41 subsection c. of section 4 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before  
42 the Legislature as this bill) are met, the NJMCQC shall work with  
43 the Governor's office to coordinate all efforts and strategies to  
44 reduce maternal mortality, mobility, and racial and ethnic  
45 disparities in the State. At such time as the conditions set forth in  
46 subsection c. of section 4 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before  
47 the Legislature as this bill) are met, the NJMCQC shall reorganize

1 under<sup>1</sup> the authority <sup>1</sup>that , and<sup>1</sup> shall work with the Governor's  
 2 office under the supervision and oversight of the board <sup>1</sup>as<sup>1</sup>  
 3 established pursuant to section 5 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
 4 before the Legislature as this bill) <sup>1</sup>to coordinate all efforts  
 5 and strategies to reduce maternal mortality, morbidity, and racial  
 6 and ethnic disparities in the State , including supervision and  
 7 oversight of the Maternal Mortality Review Committee <sup>1</sup>at the  
 8 direction of the board <sup>2</sup>, including supervision and oversight of  
 9 the Maternal Mortality Review Committee<sup>1</sup> ; however,  
 10 notwithstanding this reorganization, at such time as the conditions  
 11 set forth in subsection c. of section 4 of P.L. , c. (C. )  
 12 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) are met, oversight and  
 13 supervision of the Maternal Mortality Review Committee shall be  
 14 assumed by the Department of Health<sup>2</sup>.

15 b. The NJMCQC shall work collaboratively with current  
 16 organizations that are developing and implementing maternal  
 17 mortality and morbidity reduction strategies, including the New  
 18 Jersey Hospital Association's Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative.

19 c. The NJMCQC shall be composed of ~~34~~ <sup>1</sup>38<sup>1</sup> 39<sup>1</sup>  
 20 members, including ~~nine~~ eight ex-officio members and ~~25~~  
 21 <sup>1</sup>30<sup>1</sup> 31<sup>1</sup> public members appointed by the Governor.

22 (1) The ex officio members shall include the following persons  
 23 or their designees:

24 the Commissioner of Health;  
 25 the Commissioner of Human Services;  
 26 the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance;  
 27 the Commissioner of Children and Families;  
 28 the Deputy Commissioner of Health Systems in the Department  
 29 of Health;  
 30 the Deputy Commissioner of Public Health Services in the  
 31 Department of Health;  
 32 the Director of the Office of Minority and Multicultural Health  
 33 in the Department of Health;  
 34 the Director of the Division of Medical Assistance and Health  
 35 Services in the Department of Human Services; and  
 36 the Assistant Commissioner of Health and Life Insurance Plans  
 37 in the Department of Banking and Insurance;  
 38 the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the  
 39 Department of Law and Public Safety;  
 40 the Director of the New Jersey Maternal Data Center in the  
 41 Department of Health; and  
 42 the president and chief executive officer of the authority, who  
 43 shall serve as chair chairperson<sup>1</sup> of the NJMCQC.

44 (2) The public members appointed by the Governor shall  
 45 include members representing each of the following groups:

46 the New Jersey Hospital Association;

1 the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute;  
 2 the Catholic HealthCare Partnership of New Jersey;  
 3 the Hospital Alliance of New Jersey;  
 4 the Fair Share Hospitals Collaborative;  
 5 the New Jersey section of the American College of Obstetricians  
 6 and Gynecologists;  
 7 the New Jersey Affiliate of the American College of Nurse  
 8 Midwives;  
 9 the New Jersey Medical Society;  
 10 <sup>1</sup>~~three~~ <sup>1</sup>two medical directors of health plans in the State, as  
 11 recommended to the commissioner by the President of the New  
 12 Jersey Association of Health Plans;  
 13 the New Jersey Section of the Association of Women's Health  
 14 Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses;  
 15 the New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Emergency  
 16 Physicians;  
 17 a New Jersey affiliate of Planned Parenthood ~~of New Jersey~~;  
 18 the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and  
 19 Surgeons;  
 20 the New Jersey Primary Care Association;  
 21 the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New  
 22 Jersey;  
 23 the Central Jersey Family Health Consortium;  
 24 the Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative;  
 25 each of the ~~three~~ <sup>1</sup>Accountable Care Organizations established  
 26 pursuant to P.L.2011, c.114 <sup>1</sup>four existing Regional Health Hubs or  
 27 any successor organization to that ~~Accountable Care~~  
 28 ~~Organization~~ <sup>1</sup>Regional Health Hub;  
 29 <sup>1</sup>the Perinatal Health Equity Initiative; <sup>1</sup>and  
 30 ~~three~~ <sup>1</sup>~~seven~~ <sup>1</sup>eight additional public members appointed on  
 31 the recommendation of the ~~Commissioner of Health~~ <sup>1</sup>Governor,  
 32 <sup>1</sup>including: <sup>1</sup>one <sup>1</sup>member who is engaged in maternal health  
 33 advocacy; one <sup>1</sup>member who is engaged in health equity advocacy;  
 34 <sup>1</sup>one member who has personal experience in receiving perinatal  
 35 <sup>1</sup>services in one of the ~~ten~~ <sup>1</sup>10 <sup>1</sup>New Jersey municipalities with the  
 36 <sup>1</sup>highest infant mortality rates in the State ; one <sup>1</sup>member who has  
 37 <sup>1</sup>expertise in maternal or infant health workforce development <sup>1</sup>or  
 38 <sup>1</sup>graduate health education ; one <sup>1</sup>member who has expertise  
 39 <sup>1</sup>in ~~graduate health education~~ <sup>1</sup>behavioral health ; one <sup>1</sup>~~with~~  
 40 <sup>1</sup>member who has expertise in providing doula <sup>1</sup>~~or~~ <sup>1</sup>services; one  
 41 <sup>1</sup>member who expertise in providing lactation services <sup>1</sup>as an  
 42 <sup>1</sup>international board certified lactation consultant ; and one  
 43 <sup>1</sup>member who is engaged in healthcare consumer advocacy.  
 44 d. The public members of the NJMCQC shall serve without  
 45 compensation and shall each serve for a term of three years. Each  
 46 public member shall serve for the term of appointment and shall

1 serve until a successor is appointed and qualified, except that a  
 2 public member may be reappointed to the NJMCQC upon the  
 3 expiration of <sup>1</sup>~~their~~ the member's<sup>1</sup> term. Any vacancy in the  
 4 membership shall be filled, for the unexpired term, in the same  
 5 manner as the original appointment.

6 e. The board, in consultation with the NJMCQC <sup>1,1</sup> shall adopt  
 7 and implement the strategic plan for the State of New Jersey to  
 8 reduce maternal mortality, morbidity <sup>1,1</sup> and racial and ethnic  
 9 disparities. The NJMCQC shall meet quarterly to **coordinate**  
 10 develop recommendations to submit to the board for review and  
 11 approval, which recommendations shall include, but shall not be  
 12 limited to, proposed activities that forward the strategic plan,  
 13 **strategize** strategies on future activities, **solicit** funding  
 14 opportunities, **focus on translating** action items based on the data  
 15 generated and collected by~~the~~ the Maternal Data Center, the  
 16 Healthcare Quality and Informatics Unit, the Maternal Mortality  
 17 Review Committee, the Department of Health, and its partners **into**  
 18 action items, and strategies to communicate goals and achievement  
 19 of these goals with stakeholders.

20 f. The board, in consultation with the NJMCQC <sup>1,1</sup> shall:

21 (1) **Employ** an Executive Director, a Program Manager, and  
 22 any other personnel as authorized by the Commissioner of Health.  
 23 The Department of Health shall provide such administrative staff  
 24 support to the NJMCQC as shall be necessary for the NJMCQC to  
 25 carry out its duties. The director shall be appointed by the  
 26 commissioner and shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner  
 27 during the commissioner's term of office and until the appointment  
 28 and qualification of the director's successor; ~~(deleted by~~  
 29 amendment, P.L. , c. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
 30 bill)

31 (2) <sup>1</sup>~~(2)~~<sup>1</sup> Apply for and accept any grant of money from the  
 32 federal government, private foundations or other sources, which  
 33 may be available for programs related to maternal mortality,  
 34 morbidity <sup>1,1</sup> and racial and ethnic disparities;

35 **(3)** ~~Serve as the designated State entity for receipt of~~ <sup>1</sup>~~(2)~~  
 36 <sup>(3)</sup><sup>1</sup> Coordinate with the Department of Health to receive federal  
 37 funds specifically designated for programs concerning maternal  
 38 mortality, morbidity <sup>1,1</sup> and racial and ethnic disparities;

39 **(4)** <sup>1</sup>~~(3)~~<sup>1</sup> **(4)**<sup>1</sup> Enter into contracts with individuals,  
 40 organizations, and institutions necessary for the performance of its  
 41 duties under P.L.2019, c.75 (C.26:2C-1 et al.); and

42 **(5)** Work with the Center for Healthcare Quality and Informatics  
 43 to develop and publicize statistical information on maternal  
 44 mortality, morbidity and racial and ethnic disparities and  
 45 information as provided for pursuant to P.L.2018, c.82 (C.26:2H-

5j)] <sup>1</sup>[(4)] (5)<sup>1</sup> Establish and coordinate among subcommittees as necessary to achieve the purposes of the NJMCQC.

<sup>1</sup>g.<sup>1</sup> [g. The NJMCQC is entitled to call to its assistance, and avail itself of, the services of employees of any State, county or municipal department, board, bureau, commission or agency as it may require and as may be available to it for its purposes. All departments, agencies and divisions are authorized and directed, to the extent not inconsistent with law, to cooperate with the NJMCQC.] <sup>1</sup>(deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)<sup>1</sup>

(cf: P.L.2019, c.75, s.3)

<sup>1</sup>[13.] 14.<sup>1</sup> Section 12 of P.L.2019, c.75 (C.26:6C-12) is amended to read as follows:

12. a. (1) On an annual basis, and using the death records that have been filed during the preceding year, the Maternal Mortality Review Committee shall work collaboratively with the Maternal Data Center in the Healthcare Quality and Informatics Unit~~].~~ and [NJMCQC's] the Department of Health's Maternal Health epidemiologists and other staff to identify: (a) the total number of maternal deaths that have occurred in the State during the year, and during each quarter of the year; (b) the average Statewide rate of maternal death occurring during the year; (c) the number and percentage of maternal deaths that occurred during the year in each of the Northern, Central, and Southern regions of the State; (d) the number and percentage of maternal deaths, on a Statewide and regional basis, that constituted pregnancy-associated deaths, and the number and percentage of maternal deaths, on a Statewide and regional basis, that constituted pregnancy-related deaths; (e) the areas of the State where the rates of maternal death are significantly higher than the Statewide average; and (f) the rate of racial disparities in maternal deaths occurring on a Statewide and regional basis.

(2) The results of the annual analysis that is conducted pursuant to this subsection shall be posted at a publicly accessible location on the Internet website of the Department of Health, and shall also be promptly forwarded to the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority and the NJMCQC.

b. In order to accomplish its duties under this section, the Maternal Mortality Review Committee shall:

(1) for the purposes of determining the total number of pregnancy-associated deaths, review each woman's death record, and match the death record with a certificate of live birth, or with a fetal or infant death record, for the woman's child, in order to confirm whether the woman died during pregnancy, or within one year after the end of pregnancy; and

(2) for the purposes of determining the total number of pregnancy-related deaths, review each woman's death record, and identify each such death record in which the death is reported to have resulted from an underlying or contributing cause related to pregnancy, regardless of the amount of time that has passed between the end of the pregnancy and the death.

The Maternal Mortality Review Committee may also use any other appropriate means or methods to identify maternal deaths. Such means or methods may include, but need not be limited to, use of the case ascertainment system devised by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(cf: P.L.2019, c.75, s.12)

<sup>1</sup>14. <sup>1</sup>15. Section 14 of P.L.2019, c.75 (C.26:6C-13) is amended to read as follows:

14. a. The Department of Health shall establish a Maternal Data Center in the Healthcare Quality and Informatics Unit that shall develop protocols and requirements for the submission of maternal mortality, morbidity and racial and ethnic disparity data indicators; collect this information from relevant health care facilities in the State; conduct rapid-cycle data analytics; develop reports and a public facing dashboard; and disseminate the information collected to the NJMCQC, the Maternal Mortality Review Committee, participating health care facilities, and other stakeholders as identified by the **NJMCQC** Department of Health. Each participating facility shall have full access to data reported to the Maternal Data Center, provided that any data accessible to participating facilities shall be de-identified, and further provided that nothing in this subsection shall authorize the disclosure of any confidential or personal identifying information for any patient.

b. The Maternal Data Center shall employ a director, three research scientists <sup>1</sup>1; <sup>1</sup>a technical assistant <sup>1</sup>1; and other staff as necessary to implement the requirements <sup>1</sup>1pursuant to <sup>1</sup>1set forth in subsection a. of this section.

(cf: P.L.2019, c.75, s.14)

<sup>1</sup>15. a. <sup>1</sup>16. (New section) <sup>1</sup>1The No later than one year after the members of the board are appointed and the board first organizes, and annually thereafter, the authority shall <sup>1</sup>1prepare and <sup>1</sup>1submit a report to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature <sup>1</sup>1on or before one year after the members of the board are appointed and the board first organizes, and annually thereafter. Each <sup>1</sup>1, which report shall set forth a complete operating and financial statement covering the operations of the authority <sup>1</sup>1.

b. Within one year after the members of the board are appointed and the board first organizes, and annually thereafter, the

1 authority shall report to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of  
 2 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature on **1** provide  
 3 details on<sup>1</sup> programs, services <sup>1</sup> and<sup>1</sup> and initiatives established by the  
 4 authority, and <sup>1</sup> assess<sup>1</sup> the contribution of those programs, services  
 5 <sup>1</sup> and<sup>1</sup> and initiatives to the advancement of the State's maternal and  
 6 infant health outcomes.

7  
 8 **<sup>1</sup> [16.] 17.**<sup>1</sup> (New section) a. Notwithstanding any provision of  
 9 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1  
 10 et seq.) to the contrary, the board, **<sup>1</sup> [after] in**<sup>1</sup> consultation with the  
 11 **<sup>1</sup> [Department of the Treasury] State Treasurer**<sup>1</sup> , Commissioner of  
 12 Health, and Chief Executive Officer of the Economic Development  
 13 Authority, shall, immediately upon filing proper notice with the  
 14 Office of Administrative Law, adopt rules and regulations  
 15 **<sup>1</sup> [prepared by the board]**<sup>1</sup> necessary **<sup>1</sup> [or proper]**<sup>1</sup> to enable **<sup>1</sup> [it]**<sup>1</sup>  
 16 **<sup>1</sup> the board**<sup>1</sup> to carry out **<sup>1</sup> [the board's] its**<sup>1</sup> duties, functions, and  
 17 powers <sup>1</sup> pursuant to P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
 18 Legislature as this bill)<sup>1</sup> .

19 b. The initial rules and regulations adopted pursuant to  
 20 <sup>1</sup> subsection a. of<sup>1</sup> this <sup>1</sup> section<sup>1</sup> shall be in effect for a period not to  
 21 exceed one year after the date of filing with the Office of  
 22 Administrative Law. **<sup>1</sup> [These] Thereafter, the**<sup>1</sup> rules and  
 23 regulations shall **<sup>1</sup> [thereafter]**<sup>1</sup> be adopted, amended, or readopted,  
 24 and any subsequent rules and regulations <sup>1</sup> shall be<sup>1</sup> adopted,  
 25 amended, or readopted, by the board in accordance with the  
 26 requirements of the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968,  
 27 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), **<sup>1</sup> [after] in**<sup>1</sup> consultation with <sup>1</sup> the State  
 28 Treasurer, the Commissioner of Health, and the Chief Executive  
 29 Officer of the Economic Development Authority<sup>1</sup> , and **<sup>1</sup> [any]**<sup>1</sup>  
 30 <sup>1</sup> such<sup>1</sup> other departments, <sup>1</sup> agencies, and authorities<sup>1</sup> as the board  
 31 deems appropriate.

32  
 33 **<sup>1</sup> [17.] 18.**<sup>1</sup> (New section) a. The authority shall establish and  
 34 maintain a special <sup>1</sup> nonlapsing fund<sup>1</sup> to be known as **<sup>1</sup> [New] the**<sup>1</sup>  
 35 <sup>1</sup> New<sup>1</sup> Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority  
 36 **<sup>1</sup> [Fund] Fund**<sup>1</sup> . The fund shall be operated in a manner  
 37 determined by the board. The authority may deposit into the fund  
 38 **<sup>1</sup> [such moneys] :**<sup>1</sup> (1) <sup>1</sup> such monies<sup>1</sup> as shall be appropriated by  
 39 the State for the purpose of the fund; (2) <sup>1</sup> such monies<sup>1</sup> as shall be  
 40 received by the authority from the repayment of loans or other  
 41 extensions of credit made pursuant to this act; and (3) any other  
 42 **<sup>1</sup> [moneys] monies**<sup>1</sup> or funds of the authority **<sup>1</sup> [which it determines**  
 43 **to deposit therein]**<sup>1</sup> .

1       b. All funds received by the authority, other than those  
2       necessary to pay the expenses of the authority, shall be used to  
3       advance the purposes of the <sup>1</sup>~~Authority~~ authority<sup>1</sup> .

4  
5       <sup>1</sup>~~18.~~ 19.<sup>1</sup> (New section) There is hereby appropriated from  
6       the General Fund to the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health  
7       Innovation Authority Fund <sup>1</sup>~~established pursuant to section 18 of~~  
8       P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)<sup>1</sup>  
9       the sum of <sup>2</sup>~~\$23,220,000~~ to cover operational, administrative, and  
10      other expenses of the authority,<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>~~with~~ <sup>2</sup>~~of~~ \$2,220,000,<sup>2</sup>  
11      which sum<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>~~at least \$3,220,000~~<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>~~of which~~<sup>1</sup> shall be  
12      <sup>2</sup>~~allocated for the~~ implementation of used by the authority to  
13      support the purposes of<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>~~the~~ this<sup>1</sup> act <sup>2</sup>~~,~~ startup costs, staff,  
14      board member salaries,<sup>1</sup> and stipend compensation<sup>2</sup> .

15  
16      <sup>1</sup>~~19.~~ 20.<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect immediately.

17  
18  
19  
20  
21      Establishes “New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation  
22      Center Act,” and appropriates \$2,220,000.