

1 [Black Maternal Health Week - April 11 through April 17, 2025]

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3 **Resolution declaring Black Maternal Health Week from April 11 through April 17, 2025,**
4 **in the City and County of San Francisco.**
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6 WHEREAS, Black women in San Francisco deserve joyful, healthy pregnancies and
7 birth outcomes just like every other racial demographic; and

8 WHEREAS, Black maternal health disparities in San Francisco are a multidimensional
9 challenge that requires a community-centered approach; and

10 WHEREAS, Black women are the only racial group for whom preterm birth has gotten
11 worse in San Francisco since 2020; and

12 WHEREAS, Black maternal health disparities in San Francisco are rooted in systemic
13 racism; and

14 WHEREAS, The death of a mother during or within the following year of a pregnancy
15 from a pregnancy-related complication is called pregnancy-related mortality; and

16 WHEREAS, The number of pregnancy-related deaths for every 100,000 live births, or
17 the pregnancy-related mortality ratio, is often used as an indicator to measure the health and
18 well-being of a nation and a municipality; and

19 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, there is one pregnancy-related death each year; and

20 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, the top three causes of maternal death are embolism,
21 infection, and chronic disease, including cancers and hypertension, which in turn are
22 associated with economic, cultural, environmental, and social conditions; and

23 WHEREAS, 45% of Black/African American birthing mothers live below the federal
24 poverty line in San Francisco; and
25

1 WHEREAS, Inordinate and unacceptable disparities exist in the rate of pregnancy-
2 related mortality by race and ethnicity; and

3 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, Black/African American birthing mothers experience a
4 disproportionate share of pregnancy-related deaths; and

5 WHEREAS, Over the past 10 years, Black/African American mothers had about 4% of
6 births but accounted for 50% of pregnancy-related deaths; and

7 WHEREAS, The Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health section of the Department of
8 Public Health has convened a group of multi-sector stakeholders to participate in the Prenatal
9 Equity Initiative to implement strategies to decrease disparities in maternal mortality, preterm
10 birth, and other perinatal health issues; and

11 WHEREAS, Care coordination, education, and access to social and health care
12 services can improve perinatal health in San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That addressing Black maternal health disparities is a solvable problem in
14 San Francisco; and

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby declares April 11
16 through April 17 as “Black Maternal Health Week” to affirm the City’s commitment to investing
17 in and protecting the lives of all birthing people in San Francisco.