

1 [Supporting California Assembly Bill No. 2319 (Wilson and Weber) - Strengthening the  
2 California Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act of 2019]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 2319, introduced by**  
4 **Assembly Members Lori Wilson and Akilah Weber, to strengthen the training protocols**  
5 **in the California Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act of 2019, while introducing**  
6 **penalties for non-compliance from health care providers.**

7

8 WHEREAS, The California legislature passed the California Dignity in Pregnancy and  
9 Childbirth Act of 2019 (SB 464 [2019]), supported by the City and County of San Francisco on  
10 file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 190551, which required hospitals and  
11 other health facilities to train perinatal care providers on unconscious bias in medicine that  
12 impacts racial maternal and infant health disparities; and

13 WHEREAS, Despite going into effect in January 2020, the California Department of  
14 Justice’s (CA DOJ) initial August 2021 investigation detailed dismal rates of compliance from  
15 health care providers, stating that “fewer than 17% of responding providers had even begun  
16 training their employees and not a single employee had been fully trained”; and

17 WHEREAS, Race continues to be a determining factor in maternal health and infant  
18 mortality not just in California but across the country as the mortality rate for Black infants is  
19 three times higher than for white infants and nearly one-and-a-half times higher for Pacific  
20 Islander infants than white infants; and

21 WHEREAS, Black women constitute 5% of California’s pregnant population but  
22 account for a staggering 21% of pregnancy-related deaths, and Black women in California are  
23 three times more likely than any other women to die during or immediately after pregnancy;  
24 and

25

1           WHEREAS, Following the CA DOJ's ten-month investigation and outreach efforts, the  
2 implicit bias training completion rate increased from 17% to 81% as detailed in the Report on  
3 Healthcare Facilities and the California Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act; and

4           WHEREAS, Introduced on February 12, 2024, California State Assembly Bill No. 2319  
5 (AB 2319) extends the evidence-based unconscious bias training requirements to also include  
6 hospitals that provide prenatal care; and

7           WHEREAS, AB 2319 additionally authorizes the California Department of Public Health  
8 to implement necessary enforcement mechanisms for the training requirements, such as  
9 issuing an administrative penalty for non-compliant health care providers and publicly  
10 documenting a list of these facilities that did not submit timely proof of compliance; and

11           WHEREAS, By codifying AB 2319, California will take another step towards achieving  
12 the goals first established in the California Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act by  
13 improving access to quality of care for women of color and reducing racial healthcare  
14 disparities; now, therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
16 supports Assembly Bill No. 2319; and, be it

17           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board send a copy of this Resolution to  
18 Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro-Tempore Mike McGuire, Speaker of the State  
19 Assembly Robert Rivas, State Senator Scott Wiener, Assemblymember Matt Haney, and  
20 Assemblymember Phil Ting.