

From: [Melva Brownlee \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
To: [Brandee Smith \(Secretary to the Board\)](#)
Cc: [Timothy Casey \(Secretary to the Board\)](#)
Subject: FW: Commentary For Maternal Health Resolution
Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 11:56:13 AM

Written Testimony for Health and Hospitals Committee meeting at 2:00p.m on today.

Best regards,

Melva L. Brownlee

From: Myles Brady Davis <mylesbradydavis@eqil.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 11:54 AM
To: Cookcounty.board@coocountyil.gov
Cc: Michelle Harris (Board of Commissioners) <Michelle.Harris@cookcountyil.gov>; Melva Brownlee (Board of Commissioners) <melva.brownlee@cookcountyil.gov>
Subject: Commentary For Maternal Health Resolution

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I am Myles Brady Davis, my pronouns are they/them, and I serve as the Director of Communications and Press Secretary at Equality Illinois, the state's LGBTQ+ civil rights organization. On behalf of myself, my family, and Equality Illinois, I write in support of PROPOSED RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A HEARING OF THE HEALTH AND HOSPITALS COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON MATERNAL HEALTH MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY RATES IN COOK COUNTY and ask for amendments to include the experiences of all people who can become pregnant in the hearing.

As a trans-masculine person, I am the proud father of two young daughters; both of whom were born in Cook County and both of whom I had the privilege of carrying. As a Black person who was pregnant, I personally understand the unique health challenges and bemoan the disparate health outcomes for Black women and Black people who can become pregnant. This resolution could be a critical tool in raising awareness of these issues, bring much needed insight into the root causes, and set Cook County on a path toward making pregnancy safer for all residents who can become pregnant, particularly for Black women and Black people who can become pregnant.

I ask that the language of the resolution be updated to include the experiences of all Black people who can become pregnant in addition to Black women so that the full breadth of the issue can be fully explored. With appreciation for your consideration.

Best,
Myles

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Myles Brady Davis
Director of Communications and Press Secretary
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Check out EI's [2024 Legislative Agenda](#). You'll read about initiatives we are leading or co-leading, bills we support to advance LGBTQ+ justice, and anti-equality legislation we oppose. Take action!

Equality Illinois builds a better Illinois by advancing equal treatment and social justice through education, advocacy, and protection of the rights of the LGBTQ community. Learn more, act, and support our mission at www.equalityillinois.org
