



August 22, 2018

The Honorable Kamala Harris
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Harris,

On behalf of First Focus, we applaud your introduction of the Maternal CARE Act and welcome the opportunity to work with you and your staff to reduce the number of African American women who are at risk of maternal and infant mortality.

First Focus is a national bipartisan children's advocacy organization dedicated to making children and families a priority in federal budget and policy decisions. Your bill will do an incredible service to the women and children who needlessly suffer from the effects of institutional bias and inadequate access to our nation's health care system.

As you know, African American women face a high risk of maternal mortality and their children have significantly higher rates of infant mortality than white and Latino children of the same age. As a children's advocacy organization, First Focus believes all children, and moms, regardless of their race or socio-economic status, must have a chance to build a bright future.

Thank you again for your tireless work in addressing this issue and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely

Bruce Lesley
President