

# HB133

Author:  
Representative  
Toni Rose

# BILLS, BILLS, BILLS!

A closer look at positive women's health legislation from the 87th #TXLege

## BILL SUMMARY

12-months postpartum Medicaid coverage

## RELATED TO TWHC POLICY PRIORITY

#4 Supporting innovative new healthcare policies that benefit the health of Texas' women and families.

## COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

This bill successfully passed through the House Human Services and Calendars Committees! It's been scheduled to be heard by the full House chamber on April 14, 2021. You can find your House Representative with this [search tool](#) and encourage them to vote in favor of HB 133.

After passing through the House Chamber, HB 133 will follow a similar process in the Senate. We will continue to share ways you can advocate for this important legislative as it advances.



## HOW WILL THE BILL IMPROVE WOMEN'S HEALTH?

The provisions in this bill will improve continuity of care for postpartum women, help reduce instances of maternal death, and improve health outcomes for Texas mothers and babies. This legislation would implement the top recommendation of the Texas' Maternal Mortality & Morbidity Review Committee and promote health for moms and babies during the critical first year of a baby's life. The Review Committee explains, access to comprehensive healthcare services before, during, and after pregnancy could help identify and properly manage health conditions before they become life-threatening.



Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition  
c/o Healthy Futures of Texas 2300 W. Commerce St., Ste.  
212, San Antonio, TX 78207 |  
(210) 223-4589 | [info@texaswhc.org](mailto:info@texaswhc.org) | [texaswhc.org](http://texaswhc.org)

## Here are some talking points you can utilize when talking or emailing about HB 133:

- Today, Pregnant Women's Medicaid only provides postpartum coverage for up to 60 days.
- For optimal health outcomes, postpartum care should be an ongoing process tailored to the specific needs of every woman rather than time limited access to care.
- HB 133 would implement the top recommendation of Texas' Maternal Mortality & Morbidity Review Committee and promote health for moms and babies during the critical first year of a baby's life.
- The majority of pregnancy-related deaths in Texas are preventable.
- When a client's Pregnant Women's Medicaid coverage ends 60-days postpartum, they might lose access to the specialty care needed to manage and treat chronic conditions.
- One of the best strategies to reverse these trends is to ensure women have access to healthcare before, during, and after pregnancy.
- When women are able to plan and space their pregnancies, mothers experience healthier outcomes and babies have less risk of prematurity and low-birth weight.
- Access to preventive healthcare also contributes to decreasing unintended pregnancies – thereby saving Medicaid costs to the state.
- Extending the length of postpartum coverage for women on Medicaid will help improve outcomes for both mom and baby, support healthier subsequent pregnancies, and reduce Medicaid costs to the state.