



**NPWH Congratulates the U.S. House of Representatives on
the Passage of the Build Back Better Act,
which includes Historic Provisions to
Improve the Health of Women, Birthing People and Families**

November 19, 2021 – “NPWH applauds the U.S. House of Representatives for passing this historic legislation that will ultimately improve the health of women, pregnant people, and their families,” said Heather L. Maurer, NPWH CEO. “From clinical training and education, to access to care and supporting health equity, and prioritizing planetary health, this is a monumental moment for patients and healthcare providers.”

The National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health (NPWH) celebrates the inclusion of specific priorities to strengthen women’s health in the United States, including issues that are critical to Women’s Health Nurse Practitioners: maternal health equity, climate change-related health, and women’s health throughout the lifespan.

- **Maternal Health Equity** – NPWH is a proud supporter of the [Black Maternal Health Caucus](#), and the Black Maternal Health Omnibus – which targets a range of factors contributing to disparate health outcomes.

Included in the Build Back Better Act are Omnibus priorities that:

- grow and diversify the perinatal health workforce;
 - invest in maternal mental health equity;
 - expand access to digital tools and technologies that promote maternal health equity;
 - train healthcare providers to recognize implicit bias; and
 - expand Medicaid coverage for postpartum care for one full year post-birth.
- **Climate Change-Related Health** – NPWH, with our allies at the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (AHNE), recently launched a collaborative, [Nurses Improving the Environmental Health of Women & Children](#), which focuses on promoting women’s, children’s, and maternal health by reducing environmental factors that contribute to health disparities and harm. The Build Back Better Act supports these efforts with funding for healthcare provider education to identify and address health risks associated with climate change.
 - **Women’s Health Throughout the Lifespan** – NPWH is the convener of the [BOlder Women’s Health Coalition](#), a collaborative, cross-sector effort that brings together

leaders in healthcare, public policy, research, education, and nonprofit service to improve the health and wellbeing of women as they age.

The Build Back Better Act supports this population through investment in:

- Home and community-based services
- Expanded Medicare and Medicaid coverage for vision, dental, and hearing care
- Affordable housing and long-term care
- Paid family and medical leave and childcare

NPWH urges to U.S. Senate to maintain these vital provisions to protect women's health and swiftly pass the Build Back Better Act.

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NPWH is the professional community for Women's Health Nurse Practitioners and other advanced practice registered nurses who provide women's and gender-related healthcare. We set a standard of excellence by translating and promoting the latest research and evidence-based clinical guidance, providing high quality continuing education, and advocating for patients, providers, and the WHNP profession. Our mission includes protecting and promoting a woman's right to make her own choices regarding her health and well-being within the context of her lived experience and her personal, religious, cultural, and family beliefs. www.npwh.org