

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To improve research and data collection on stillbirths, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To improve research and data collection on stillbirths, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Stillbirth Health Im-  
5 provement and Education for Autumn Act of 2022” or  
6 the “SHINE for Autumn Act of 2022”.

7 **SEC. 2. STILLBIRTH RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION IM-**  
8 **PROVEMENTS.**

9 Title III of the Public Health Service Act is amended  
10 by inserting after section 317L–1 of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
11 247b–13a) the following:

1 **“SEC. 317L-2. STILLBIRTH RESEARCH AND DATA COLLEC-**  
2 **TION IMPROVEMENTS.**

3 “(a) STILLBIRTH SURVEILLANCE AND RISK FACTOR  
4 STUDIES.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award  
6 grants to States for purposes of—

7 “(A) conducting surveillance and collecting  
8 data with respect to stillbirths;

9 “(B) building State and local public health  
10 capacity to assess stillbirth data; and

11 “(C) collecting and reporting data on still-  
12 birth risk factors, including any quantifiable  
13 outcomes with respect to such risk factors.

14 “(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—  
15 To carry out this subsection, there is authorized to  
16 be appropriated \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
17 2023 through 2027.

18 “(b) GUIDELINES AND EDUCATIONAL AWARENESS  
19 MATERIALS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

21 “(A) issue guidelines to State departments  
22 of health and State and local vital statistics  
23 units on—

24 “(i) collecting data on stillbirth from  
25 health care providers, and with the consent  
26 of the family involved, including any such

1 data with respect to the clinical history,  
2 postmortem examination, and placental pa-  
3 thology;

4 “(ii) sharing such data with Federal  
5 agencies determined appropriate by the Di-  
6 rector of the Centers for Disease Control  
7 and Prevention; and

8 “(iii) improving processes and train-  
9 ing related to stillbirth data collection and  
10 reporting to ensure standardization and  
11 completeness of data; and

12 “(B) develop, and make publicly available,  
13 educational awareness materials on stillbirths.

14 “(2) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out para-  
15 graph (1), the Secretary may consult with—

16 “(A) national health care professional as-  
17 sociations;

18 “(B) national associations representing  
19 State and local public health officials;

20 “(C) organizations that assist families with  
21 burial support and bereavement services;

22 “(D) nurses and nurse practitioners;

23 “(E) obstetricians and gynecologists;

24 “(F) pediatricians;

25 “(G) maternal-fetal medicine specialists;

1 “(H) midwives;

2 “(I) mental health professionals;

3 “(J) statisticians;

4 “(K) individuals who have experienced a  
5 stillbirth; and

6 “(L) advocacy organizations representing  
7 such individuals.

8 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

9 To carry out this subsection, there is authorized to  
10 be appropriated \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
11 2023 through 2027.

12 “(c) VITAL STATISTICS UNIT DEFINED.—In this sec-  
13 tion, the term ‘vital statistics unit’ means the entity that  
14 is responsible for maintaining vital records for a State,  
15 or a political subdivision of such State, including official  
16 records of live births, deaths, fetal deaths, marriages, di-  
17 vorces, and annulments.”.

18 **SEC. 3. PERINATAL PATHOLOGY FELLOWSHIPS.**

19 The Public Health Service Act is amended by insert-  
20 ing after section 1122 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 300c–12)  
21 the following:

22 **“SEC. 1123. IMPROVING PERINATAL PATHOLOGY.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish  
24 and implement, or incorporate into an existing training  
25 program, a Perinatal Pathology Fellowship Program or a

1 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship on Factors Associated  
2 with Stillbirth Program to—

3 “(1) provide training in perinatal autopsy pa-  
4 thology;

5 “(2) conduct research on, and improve data col-  
6 lection through fetal autopsies with respect to, still-  
7 birth; and

8 “(3) address challenges in stillbirth education,  
9 research, and data collection.

10 “(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
11 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
12 \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.”.

13 **SEC. 4. REPORTS.**

14 (a) EDUCATIONAL GUIDELINES REPORT.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than five years  
16 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
17 retary of Health and Human Services shall publish  
18 on a public website of the Department of Health and  
19 Human Services a report with educational guidelines  
20 on stillbirth and stillbirth risk factors.

21 (2) CONTENTS.—Such report shall include, to  
22 the extent practicable and appropriate, the guide-  
23 lines issued and educational awareness materials de-  
24 veloped under section 317L–2 of the Public Health  
25 Service Act, as added by section 2 of this Act.

1           (b) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than five years  
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
3 Health and Human Services shall submit to the Congress  
4 a comprehensive report on the progress and effectiveness  
5 of the Perinatal Pathology Fellowship Program estab-  
6 lished under section 1123 of the Public Health Service  
7 Act, as added by section 3 of this Act.