



**American Hospital
Association®**

800 10th Street, NW
Two CityCenter, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20001-4956
(202) 638-1100 Phone
www.aha.org

February 12, 2016

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

On behalf of our nearly 5,000 member hospitals, health systems and other health care organizations, and our 43,000 individual members, the American Hospital Association (AHA) is pleased to support S. 2220, the Healthy Maternity and Obstetric Medicine Act or Healthy MOM Act. Your legislation would ensure health insurance coverage for mothers and children, which is essential to the health of our nation.

The Healthy MOM Act would guarantee maternity coverage for women who are enrolled in the exchanges established under the Affordable Care Act, as well as women who are covered by individual and group insurance plans and federal employee health benefit plans. In addition, the Healthy MOM Act would require that health plans could not exclude maternity coverage for those policies that cover dependent female children.

Ensuring the health of mothers and infants is vital for improving public health. Uninsured mothers are less likely to receive important pre- and post-birth care that would improve health outcomes for them and their children. This can lead to more incidents of maternal, infant and child mortality and morbidities. Instead, we should ensure the availability of needed care for mothers and improve health outcomes for the next generation.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We look forward to working with you to enact S. 2220.

Sincerely,

/s/

Thomas P. Nickels
Executive Vice President

