



Congresswoman Beatty (OH-03) Invites You to Support the Women's Heart Health Expansion Act

Background:

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death among women in the United States, responsible for [one in every three female deaths each year](#). Despite this sobering reality, women remain underdiagnosed, undertreated, and underserved when it comes to heart disease prevention and care. Black women are especially vulnerable, with CVD affecting [47.3% of the population](#). Ensuring women receive consistent, preventive heart care is critical not only to reducing mortality but to empowering women with the knowledge and access needed to safeguard their health.

Established in 1993, the WISEWOMAN (Well-Integrated Screening and Evaluation for WOMen Across the Nation) program, administered through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), provides free cardiovascular screenings, risk factor assessments, and lifestyle intervention services to low-income, uninsured, and underinsured women. Currently, the program only operates in a limited number of states and tribal organizations. Because eligibility is limited to women who also receive services under the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP), the program serves fewer participants – reducing both its overall impact and the federal funding it receives. Due to these constraints, too many women are unable to access life-saving preventive care. Expanding access to screenings and early interventions saves lives and reduces the long-term costs of treating chronic conditions once they advance, and it is imperative that these services reach the women most at risk.

The Women's Heart Health Expansion Act reauthorizes and strengthens the WISEWOMAN program by expanding eligibility – ensuring more women receive the preventive services they need to protect their heart health.

The Women's Heart Health Expansion Act:

- Authorizes supplemental grants for WISEWOMAN grantees to provide additional cardiovascular disease screening and preventative health services;
- Expands eligibility beyond women currently served by the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program to include other women as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and
- Allows additional types of health providers and community-based organizations to deliver approved preventative services to reach more underserved women; and authorizes \$250 million for fiscal years 2025-2029 to fund expanded screening, education, and referral services.

In the 118th Congress, the Women's Heart Health Expansion Act (H.R. 7482) was endorsed by:

American Heart Association, Women's Heart Alliance, The Association of Black Cardiologists, The Adult Congenital Heart Association, WomenHeart, the American College of Cardiology, and Heart Valve Voice-US.

In the 119th Congress, the Women's Heart Health Expansion Act was endorsed by: The Adult Congenital Heart Association, American Heart Association, The Association of Black Cardiologists.