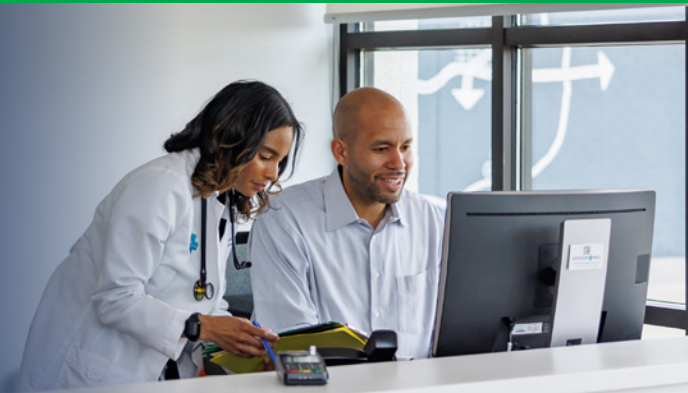




**JASON
ESTEVES**
GOVERNOR



GEORGIA FOR JASON

Maternal Health Agenda

Jason's Vision

Georgia is facing a maternal health crisis, with one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the nation, especially for Black women. Over 40% of our counties lack an OB-GYN and more than half of our rural hospitals lack a labor and delivery unit. As a longtime advocate for reproductive freedom, the husband of a nurse practitioner, and as a father, Jason Esteves is committed to reversing these trends and making Georgia a place where giving birth to and raising a child is safe for every family. Jason's maternal health agenda proposes a structured, comprehensive set of policy priorities guided by two substantive goals: reducing maternal deaths in Georgia by half, to below the national average, and working to eliminate racial disparities in pregnancy-related mortality.

The Plan

Expand Medicaid: Jason will make Medicaid expansion his top priority in office, as the number one way to lower our maternal and infant mortality rates, with especially strong benefits for Black and rural mothers and their babies. Jason will also expand Medicaid provider eligibility to include certified doulas, midwives, lactation consultants, and community health workers for the continuous support that hospitals often cannot provide.

Reverse Georgia's Abortion Ban: Jason will take immediate action to repeal HB 481 – Georgia's restrictive six-week abortion ban, which has resulted in the deaths of multiple Black women. He will end the criminalization of health professionals and ensure doctors can practice the full scope of their training – including abortion care.

Support Families: Jason believes that supporting women and families doesn't end at birth. That's why he introduced his plan for universal child care to help parents reenter the workforce and ensure their children are safe and cared for. He supports the continued expansion of family and medical leave across Georgia, beginning with state employees. And he will eliminate the sales tax for essential items like diapers, formula, and menstrual products.

Strengthen Rural Maternity Care: Jason will increase access to rural health care by expanding Medicaid and requiring insurance companies to pay full and timely reimbursements to rural hospitals, which will provide the cash infusion necessary to rebuild capacity. He'll end public funding for fake clinics and instead invest in rural healthcare hubs that provide pre- and post-natal care.

Recruit, Train, and Support More Providers: Jason's administration will partner with our universities to expand loan repayment and placement incentives for OB-GYNs who train and practice in underserved parts of Georgia. He also supports cultural competency training for providers to target the implicit biases that contribute to negative health outcomes, especially for Black women.

Protect and Increase Access to Fertility Treatments: In the face of a continued movement to roll back reproductive rights, Jason is committed to protecting access to IVF and ensuring that those experiencing infertility have access to the treatments they need. He supports broadening insurance coverage for fertility treatments.

Restore Accountability and Transparency, and Measure Progress: In 2024, Brian Kemp's administration disbanded the Maternal Mortality Review Committee following the publication of the preventable deaths of Amber Thurman and Candi Miller. Jason will ensure this committee is accountable to the public by revealing the members of the committee and publishing annual maternal outcomes reports so communities can see how conditions are improving.