

Stillbirth Health Improvement and Education (SHINE) for Autumn Act

Stillbirth is an incredibly tragic outcome of a pregnancy, and although it remains rare, it is one of the most common adverse outcomes. Sadly, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has led to an increased risk of stillbirth among those who are infected during pregnancy. ACOG is proud to support the bipartisan SHINE for Autumn Act to advance critical research and data collection and move the needle on stillbirth in the United States –

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

The fact is that no parent should have to go through the devastation of a stillbirth -

Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)

Given the current state of stillbirth research, we know much less than we should about the 23,000 babies that we lose each year -

Actor and Activist, Adam Goldberg

The SHINE for Autumn Act will bring stillbirth out of the shadows by supporting the development of stillbirth guidelines and by improving educational materials, which will increase awareness and understanding of this perinatal tragedy -

Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)

Stillbirth impacts 1 in 160 births, and each year 23,000 babies are stillborn in the United States. H.R. 5487, “Stillbirth Health Improvement and Education for Autumn Act of 2021” or SHINE for Autumn Act will take critical steps to invest in research and data collection to better understand stillbirth, with the goal of lowering the stillbirth rate. It is the beginning of a longer-term solution towards the prevention and reduction of incidences of stillbirth -

March of Dimes

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines stillbirth as a pregnancy loss of a baby at or after 20 weeks of pregnancy. Each year, stillbirth effects 1 in 160 births, and approximately 23,000 babies are stillborn in the United States. The impact of a pregnancy loss is wide-reaching, crosses all races and ethnicities, and can impact a woman and family’s mental health.

The Stillbirth Health Improvement and Education (SHINE) for Autumn Act of 2021, which was first introduced in the House by Representatives Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA), Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA), Kathy Castor (D-FL), and Markwayne Mullin (R-OK), will take critical steps to authorize investments in research and data collection to better understand stillbirth in the United States, with the goal of lowering the U.S. stillbirth rate.

The legislation is named for Autumn Joy, who was stillborn in 2011.

The SHINE for Autumn Act Will:

- Authorize **\$5 million** per year to provide grants to states to support data collection and reporting on stillbirths and contributing risk factors.
- Authorize **\$3 million** per year for a research fellowship on stillbirth that will include research and training on fetal autopsies and improved education, research, and data collection. HHS would report to Congress on the program’s progress and effectiveness within five years of the bill’s enactment.
- Authorize **\$1 million** per year for HHS to, in coordination with healthcare providers and community groups, develop guidelines and educational materials for state departments of health and vital statistics units on stillbirth data collection and data sharing.