

Maggie Koch: Stillbirth recognition and support act, headed to the governor's desk for signature

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MADISON, WI — Wisconsin legislators passed a landmark bipartisan bill, Stillbirth Recognition and Support Act, that would create a state income tax credit for parents who experience the trauma and heartbreak of stillbirth.

Senate Bill 379/ Assembly Bill 373 would establish a \$2,000 refundable individual income tax credit for parents whose child is stillborn. Stillbirth refers to the loss of a baby beginning at 20 weeks and up to the time of delivery. This credit is intended to help offset the medical, funeral, counseling, and related financial burdens parents often face after losing a child.

“While no policy can remove the pain of losing a child, acknowledging that loss and offering tangible support can make a meaningful difference to grieving families,” said Senator André Jacque, co-sponsor of the legislation.

Green Bay resident Maggie Koch (pronounced cook) experienced a stillbirth 6 years ago with the loss of her daughter Olivia, at 39 weeks and 5 days old. While her family would not benefit from this bill, she knows it will support families across the state who have yet to experience stillbirth. “I am so proud to get to this legislation though in honor of Olivia and all the other sweet babies, ” said Koch. “I am incredibly grateful to the group of loss moms whose grassroots efforts partnered with legislative support made this happen!

For parents, families, and advocates interested in learning more, additional resources can be found here [Stillbirth Tax Information | Star Legacy Foundation.](#)