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Why are Black babies dying in their first year?

Miami-Dade and Broward probe infant deaths

After far too long the state has decided to investigate why so many Black babies are almost three times as likely as whites to perish before their first birthday.

The Black Infant Health Practice Initiative, initiated by two Tampa area lawmakers, State Sen. Arthenia Joyner and Rep. Betty Reed aim to find out why these conditions exist and what must be done.



ARTHENIA JOYNER
Florida State Senator



BETTY REED
Florida State Rep.

Joyner and Reed were alarmed to find that the

number of infant deaths in their communities were as high as four times that of white babies.

Among the projects chief aims: to review community conditions and stress factors that contribute to higher incidences of still births or fetal and infant deaths. The initiative also wants to hear from local healthcare, political and community leaders, as Please turn to **BABIES 6A**

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well as conduct citizen focus groups about the challenges Black babies face.

Every child deserves a long health, productive life. This legislation will ensure that more of Florida's children have the same opportunity," Gov. Charlie Crist.