

ROBERT MENENDEZ  
NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN  
AFFAIRS  
BUDGET  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
FINANCE  
FOREIGN RELATIONS

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3005

628 SENATE HART OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4744

ONE GATEWAY CENTER  
11TH FLOOR  
NEWARK, NJ 07102  
(973) 645-3030

208 WHITE HORSE PIKE  
SUITE 18-19  
BARRINGTON, NJ 08007  
(856) 757-5353

May 12, 2010

Greetings Dr. Joseph & Members of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG),

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address you at the opening of your President's Program devoted to the subject of Postpartum Depression (PPD).

This is a subject very near to me, and it gives me special pleasure to thank ACOG, and especially you, Dr. Joseph, for your outstanding leadership and advocacy to address the serious issue of perinatal depression. With your support, the Melanie Blocker Stokes MOTHERS Act became law as part of landmark health insurance reform that passed Congress earlier this year. The legislation puts PPD on the map of the American awareness, by establishing a national commitment to combating perinatal depression through new research, education initiatives, and support programs.

The passage of the MOTHERS Act is a critically important step, but it is only one of many important steps. I am delighted to hear that ACOG's Annual Clinical Meeting includes a special focus on this topic, and am confident that ACOG will continue to lead in examining innovative science to improve our ability to treat women with perinatal depression.

Again Dr. Joseph, thank you for all that you have done. I salute you for making this issue the top priority during your Presidency and I wish you all a great conference.

Sincerely,



ROBERT MENENDEZ  
United States Senator