

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the House Health Committee:

I am writing to you today to request your support of House Bill 2845.

I am an Oregonian woman who hopes to be a mother someday. For the last few years I have dreamed of having the option of an out of hospital birth. I was born in the Willamette Valley with the assistance of a midwife who is still practicing today.

I was raised with a natural respect for out of hospital birth and the ability to trust my body. With such an upbringing I found myself attracted to the professional woman who offer and encourage those values in their maternity services.

I have had the incredible experience of working in a free-standing birth center in Lebanon as a billing coordinator for almost four years. During my time working, I have witnessed families struggle to make the difficult decision to choose to birth in an out of hospital setting and accept the complete financial responsibility regardless of the hundreds (if not thousands) of dollars that they paid into a health insurance policy or to accept a location and/or provider not of their choice to avoid the financial burden.

Please know that I make this request not only for myself, and my future children, but also for the women I see every week. These women deserve the opportunity to choose, whether they choose to birth at home, in a birthing center or in the hospital. They deserve the right to choose, and have their decision respected without threat of financial penalization.

So again, I ask that you would consider the women and vote in support of House Bill 2845.

Thank you for considering my opinions.

Sincerely,

Amy Shrock



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)