

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am a mother of two in Portland, Oregon. I had my first baby in a hospital and second in a birth center. The care I received at the birth center was amazing. I got to know all of my midwives and they got to know me. I felt safe and supported in their care and got to have an amazing birth experience - quick, healthy and natural. The midwives coached me throughout the labor so that I avoided any unnecessary (and expensive) medical interventions even with a 10lb 10oz baby. My friends and family were shocked at the "glow" I had minutes after giving birth (picture attached). I was then able to have a quick recovery under my midwives's watchful care which even included several postpartum home visits. I feel incredibly lucky and blessed for having had the resources to cover my amazing experience and hope all mothers can have the same access to care.

Please vote yes on HB 2845 so that all Oregon families have access to midwifery care. Thank you for the work you do to support the health of mothers and babies.

Best,
Anya Mezak
4133 NE 29th Ave
Portland OR 97211

