

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am a mother of two in Portland, and I had both my babies with midwives and one at home. I am writing to ask you to vote yes on HB 2845 to improve access to midwifery care. Midwives provide excellent safe health care for mother and baby. HB 2845 would increase access to midwifery care for Oregon families whether they choose to give birth in hospital, birth center, or home with Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, or Naturopathic Physicians. Midwifery care provides the large cost savings to insurers and health systems but many families still can't access midwifery care because about half of Oregon insurers (both private and OHP) provide limited or no coverage for birth center or home birth midwifery care. I want all Oregon families to have access to the amazing care I received while pregnant, during my babies birth and the care myself and my babies received during the first 2 months after birth. Please vote yes on HB 2845.

Cassandra Grimes