

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am a mother of one (and hopefully one more in the future), and had my beautiful baby with midwives at a birthing center. I am asking you to vote yes on HB 2845 to improve access to midwifery care.

We had limited insurance coverage to have access to midwifery care at a birth center (and no option to be covered with home birth). We therefore had to pay quite a lot of money out of pocket in order to have the prenatal, birth, and postnatal care we wanted. The extra money was worth it to us, because we had a wonderful experience and felt very well taken care of by our excellent team of midwives. We hope to be able to birth with them in the future, and HB 2845 would increase our chances of more coverage so that we can choose this path. In addition, this improved midwifery care access would greatly improve healthcare in my community- as I believe every parent should have the ability to pursue this option for themselves.

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.

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