

Dear Chair Salinas and Members of the House Health Committee,

Keep it simple and no more than one page

Introduce yourself and what you want in the first sentence or two

For example:

I am a mother of two in Newberg and had both my first child at home with midwives. I found the experience to surpass my second hospital birth immensely in almost every way. I am writing to ask you to vote yes on HB 2845 to improve access to midwifery care.

Midwives provided care for me that addressed my comfort levels and allowed me to tap into my natural birthing rhythms more effectively than the hospital birth. My birth at home, which allowed me to change positions more readily and "work the baby down" was much faster than the hospital birth, where I was pretty much forced into one position (on the hospital bed) that was not conducive for working the baby down.

Midwifery care provides large cost savings to insurers and health systems. Having more children born into their home environments to naturally adjust to the local allergens as opposed to being exposed to bunches of germs and viruses at the time of birth makes more sense for the health of the children. I care about the health and wellness of children and families in my community and I'd like to see the opportunity for more people to be healthier.

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.

With gratitude,

Gabrielle Ciofani, ELA Teacher, Insight School of Oregon Painted Hills 204 S. Meridian St. Apt. 1 Newberg, OR 97132