

Dear Chair Salinas and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am currently a pregnant mother in Portland and have thoroughly enjoyed my prenatal care with my midwives. I am writing to ask you to vote YES on HB 2845 to improve access to midwifery care.

My midwives have given me extraordinary care during my pregnancy. My blood pressure was a little high towards the end of my pregnancy and during visits they would give me a foot massage and we would all do a meditation together before taking my blood pressure...I for sure know this would never happen in a traditional medical setting. I am so grateful that midwifery care is covered by my insurance. Access to this level of care as a standard practice not only would give women and families an alternative to the traditional hospital system but also with a recognition that birth is a natural process and empower women to make informed decisions for themselves and their growing family.

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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