

Dear Chair Salinas and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am a mother of one in Portland, and I had my son safely at home with midwives. I am writing to ask you to vote yes on HB 2845 to improve access to midwifery care.

Midwives provide incredible and safe care, with informative and thorough support at every step of pregnancy, preparing for birth, labor and delivery. My husband and I wanted a home birth with the support of midwives. We were so grateful to bring our baby into the world with loving support and professional care from our midwife team. We spent money out of pocket for our care and would want others to have the opportunity to chose to do so with insurance coverage. This is why I am supportive of HB 2845 as it would increase access to midwifery care for Oregon families, whether they choose to give birth in the hospital, birth center, or at home with Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, or Naturopathic Physicians who practice as midwives. to make the choice of midwifery care, at home or in a birth center.

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

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