

I am a mother of 4 living in Corbett currently. I had two of my babies at home with midwives. My 5 grandchildren were all delivered at home by midwives. I am writing to ask you to vote yes on HB 2845 to improve access to midwifery care with insurance coverage for the mothers-to-be in the state of Oregon.

Midwives provide safe and cost-effective care and can provide large cost savings to health systems and insurers. At the moment about half of Oregon insurers provide little or no coverage for home births or birth center births by midwives.

HB 2845 would increase access to midwifery care for Oregon families whether they choose to give birth in hospitals, birth centers or at home with Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives or Naturopathic Physicians.

Two of my 4 births were hospital births with obstetricians and the other two were home births. For me, the comparison was striking. The hospital births were very stressful (tho successful) with the surroundings, the attitudes of the doctors and nurses off-putting. They were discouraging me about breastfeeding. The two home births with midwives, by contrast, were safe and wonderful. And getting to have my baby by me along with my husband for days was a precious gift. I would wish this for anyone and am grateful that my

children all had that opportunity when they were having children, as well. Midwifery is, after all, the way most of humanity was served.

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.

sincerely,
Marian Grebanier
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