

February 17, 2021

Dear Chair Prusak and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am both a mother who received midwifery care throughout my pregnancy, birth, and postpartum in Portland, OR, as well as a licensed midwife who provides this essential service. I am writing to ask you to vote **yes** on HB 2388 to improve access to midwifery care. Midwives provide excellent and safe care. I ended up needing to transfer during my labor and my midwives were the ones who made the call using their expertise to ensure that my baby and I were at the safest place when complications arose. They then continued to remain with me after transferring and then continue to provide above and beyond postpartum care for both me and my baby.

HB 2388 would increase access to midwifery care for Oregon families whether we choose to give birth in hospital, birth center, or home with Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, or Naturopathic Physicians. I will only continue to seek midwifery care by LDMs and continue to recommend that other low risk people seek their care to know it is a valuable option.

Please vote yes on HB 2388 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,  
Cassidy Dobek CPM LDM LM

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