

Dear Chair Prusak and Members of the House Health Committee,

Hello, my name is Alyssa Smith, and I am a parent and licensed childcare provider in Cottage Grove, Oregon. I used the Peacehealth Nurse Midwifery Birth Center in Eugene that has since closed with my first child in 2017, and am now going through a home birth midwife for my second child. Being that I live in Cottage Grove, Oregon I therefore seek care in the Eugene/Springfield area. Due to the lack of options for Oregon Health Plan recipients in our area, because of improper reimbursements for midwifery care, I am traveling all the way to Albany for my midwifery services. It is not an option for me to pay out of pocket for a home birth. It is really important for me to have options, personalized care and less chance of unnecessary cesarean birth. I acknowledge that midwifery services are cost effective for the whole healthcare system and would like to see that represented in funding for `midwives. Thank you for your time and please support HB 2388.

Thank you for supporting families and babies,  
Alyssa Smith