

Dear Chair Prusak and Members of the House Health Committee,
I am a single mother to a twelve year old in Eugene, and I am a native Oregonian. I am writing to ask you to vote Yes on HB 2388, to improve access to midwifery care. When I was pregnant, I joined a newly formed program within the PeaceHealth Midwifery Group in Eugene, one that gathered a group of pregnant women together to share their experiences and learn about pregnancy, labor, and birth in a group setting. It was wonderful, supportive, informative, and many of us from the group, and our children, are still friends today. However, many of the insurers in Oregon, including OHP, which I receive, do not cover or fully cover midwifery services. Midwives often have decades of experience within their groups, and save both insurers and private payers large sums of money in all aspects of prenatal, labor, post-natal, and lactation care, which is top-notch, in my experience. I was in active labor for three days and I always had all of the information and support I needed to get to the other side, both of us healthy and thriving. I encourage you to support women and families in Oregon and vote YES on HB 2388!

Thank you,
Annie Dimond
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