

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am a naturopathic medical student planning to pursue a certification as a midwife. Knowing and working with many knowledgeable midwives has allowed me to understand and witness the importance of their resources in delivery along with the care provided between mothers and newborns. I am writing to you to ask you to vote yes on HB 2845 to improve access to midwifery care.

Midwifery care provides large cost savings to insurers and health systems; however, many families still can't access midwifery care due to near half of Oregon insurers (both private and OHP) providing limited or no coverage for birth center or home birth midwifery care. HB 2845 would increase access to midwifery care for Oregon families whether they choose to give birth in hospital, birth center, or at home with Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, or Naturopathic Physicians.

Please consider voting 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,

Cassady Morris

NUNM ND and MsGH Student

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