

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am a mother of two in Medford and had both my babies at home with midwives. I am writing 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 but many families still can't access midwifery care because about half of Oregon insurers (both private and OHP) provide limited or no coverage for birth center or home birth midwifery care.

I personally choose not to deliver my babies in hospital unless there is a need for a medical emergency. I was not able to receive coverage for my midwifery care through insurance, forcing me to pay out of pocket and obtaining a loan in order pay the bills. I am confident in midwifery care and how detailed and personal they can be in caring for their mamas. I have no doubt of their experience and expertise in caring for and helping to deliver these wonderful babies into this world.

Improved access to midwifery care would mean I could have my future midwifery care covered under my insurance. It would also ensure that other mamas who choose to have an out of hospital birth could focus more on expenses to go toward other things in parenting or living life.

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 our mothers and babies.

Cynthia Louise Kronour  
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*"Waste no more time talking about great souls and how they should be. **Become one yourself!**"*