

2/23/2021



## **Letter of Support for House Bill 2388 A Bill for Equitable Access to Birth Options**

As the President of the Alliance of Black Nurses Association of Oregon and on behalf of our forty-six members we hereby extend our support to House Bill 2388, A Bill for Equitable Access to Birth Options. We commend Rep. Prusak for sponsoring this Bill and recognize the timeliness of this Bill as the Black Maternal Health Omnibus Act of 2021 gains congressional support. The expansion of birth options for Black families will aid the reestablishment of Black ancestral birth practices, advance the work of Black doulas and lead the charge of racial justice in health care through the midwifery care model. House Bill 2388 parallels with the mission of the Alliance of Black Nurses Association of Oregon (ABNAO) which aims to close the gap of health inequity by promoting the wellness of Black Oregonians through collaborative partnerships, advocacy, increased visibility, and mentorship of current and prospective Black nurses. We hope this Bill directs a movement of increasing legislation focused on the health of underrepresented Oregon communities.

*Danaya Hall*

President