


Dear Chair Prusak and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am a current Portland-based Student Midwife and parent who gave birth in Oregon back in 2014. My personal and professional experience with birth gives me a unique perspective and deep desire to advocate for more access to midwifery care for the families in our state. By voting **YES** on HB 2388, this would allow low-risk pregnant clients to seek and afford alternative options for out-of-hospital care providers and birth settings. This would also pay licensed midwives a fair and equitable rate while saving health insurance companies and state issued health plans elevated birthing costs from hospital deliveries and unnecessary medical procedure bills. There is an unreasonable imbalance for people and babies of color who are the most at risk for non-concordant care and negative birth outcomes that further inflates cost for the state. Please vote yes on HB 2388 so that expanded access and pay to Oregon based CPM, LDM, CNM and ND providers can further reduce these health burdens placed on the shoulders of vulnerable families of color and marginalized communities who deserve a choice regardless of cost. Overall the benefits include lower financial burden and expenses for the state, families and providers. The positive economic and health impacts of the future would be a tremendous step in the right direction.

Thank you for the work you do to support the health of pregnant people and babies. Please vote **YES** on HB 2388 so that all Oregon families have access to midwifery care.

Sincerely and Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janna Palovich', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Janna Palovich