

Dear Chair Prusak and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am a midwife and small business owner in Astoria and Portland, and have been in practice for 2 years. Please vote yes on HB 2388 so that the pregnant people I work with can have insurance coverage for the safe and cost-effective care I provide.

Midwives provide excellent and safe care. As well as 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

Many people the interview my practice site that they are not able to hire us because they are not able to afford the out of pocket cost. They are then forced to birth in a location where they are not comfortable with.

Please vote yes on HB 2388 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.

Thank you,

Whitney Wolfe, CPM LDM
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