



Legacy Health  
1919 N.W. Lovejoy St.  
Portland, OR 97209  
503.415.5600 *phone*  
50.415.5777 *fax*

March 27, 2023

House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care  
Oregon State Legislature  
Salem, Oregon

Re: House Bill 3298

Chair Nosse and Members of the Committee:

Legacy Health is a nonprofit health care provider in the Portland-Vancouver area and mid-Willamette Valley with an integrated network of care providers in over 100 primary care, urgent care, and specialty care clinics, and six community-based and nationally recognized hospitals.

Legacy supports House Bill 3298 because it is our mission to provide good health for our people, our patients, our communities, and our world. We believe all people deserve access to the care they need when they need it.

Since 2010, the Oregon Perinatal Collaborative (OPC) has led statewide maternal and infant health quality improvement through collaboration and implementation of evidence-based practices. The work of the OPC has resulted in numerous initiatives that are improving care across our state, including:

- Coordinating a statewide maternal health response to Covid-19 pandemic
- Reducing cesarean section rates in low-risk mothers
- Increasing syphilis screening during pregnancy
- Developing guidelines for management of Substance Use Disorder during pregnancy with the Oregon Health Authority
- Creating the Community Birth Transfer Partnership

OPC funding is intermittent and unstable, which is preventing expansion of its work and volunteer base. Stable funding will ensure that OPC can pursue its future priorities that include:

- Reducing racial and ethnic disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes
- Reaching every birthing hospital in Oregon
- Implementing recommendations of the Oregon Maternal Mortality Review Committee
- Implement nationally recognized Maternal Safety Bundles designed to address the continued increase in US maternal morbidity and mortality including:
  - Timely Treatment of Hypertension

- Reduction of antepartum anemia prevention to reduce severe maternal morbidity
- Adoption of team-based patient-centered care models

Providing stable funding for OPC will enable the organization to expand its reach to include every birthing person and baby in Oregon. By standardizing the approach to maternal care, implementation of these critical safety bundles across the state will make known racial and ethnic disparities and be an important step toward stopping the increasing US maternal morbidity and mortality rate.

Legacy Health urges you to support HB 3298.

Sincerely

*K. Archabald*

[K. Archabald \(Mar 27, 2023 14:00 PDT\)](#)

Karen Archabald, MD  
Senior Medical Director, Women's Services  
Legacy Medical Group