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The Honorable Rob Nosse
Chair, House Health Care Committee
State Capital
Salem, Oregon

Re: HB 3298 - Oregon Perinatal Collaborative (OPC)

Dear Representative Nosse and members of the committee,

We are submitting this letter on behalf of Oregon Health & Science University to demonstrate our enthusiastic support for HB 3298 to fund the Oregon Perinatal Collaborative. At OHSU we were instrumental in the creation of the OPC and continued to work closely in the OPC for the past 13 years to strive towards the goals of perinatal care in urban and rural areas across Oregon through education, clinical care, and education. As part of the OPC we have initiated several projects across Oregon including management of substance use disorder in pregnancy, promoting the Maternal Mortality Review Committee Bill, and establishing the West Coast Maternal Data Center improve data sharing and outcomes, and the annual Oregon Perinatal Collaborative Summit. Our educational and clinical network involves both on-site and telehealth programs that are critical to providing high quality medical care and support during pregnancy.

Funding the OPC is even more pressing now. The CDC's National Center for Health Statistics released [2021 maternal mortality data](#) showing significant increases in rates of maternal mortality and persisting disparities. These findings are a somber reminder that we have a lot of work to do to equitably improve outcomes for mothers and their babies in the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. B. Caughey, MD, MPH, PhD".

Aaron B. Caughey, MD, MPH, PhD
Professor and Chair
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Associate Dean,
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonardo Pereira, MD, MCR".

Leonardo Pereira, MD, MCR
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