



Oregon Perinatal Collaborative
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Chair Reynolds and Members of the Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health,

I am writing on behalf of the Oregon Perinatal Collaborative to ask you to support SB 691 to improve access to lifesaving and family-preserving perinatal substance use disorder treatment in Oregon.

Substance use disorders (SUD) and mental health issues are the main drivers of preventable maternal mortality in Oregon and need our urgent attention. As a statewide organization working to improve care and outcomes for mothers, birthing people, and babies in Oregon, we have made work on perinatal SUD a priority. Now we need your support to make this a priority in all parts of the health care system. There are proven interventions for perinatal SUD modeled by Nurture Oregon and Project Nurture sites across the state, but we need legislative support for funding and policy changes to make this type of care accessible to everyone who needs it in Oregon.

The concepts in this bill were created by experts in perinatal SUD working together in a year-long process and they represent the top priorities for making a real difference for pregnant and new families affected by substance use in our state. As others who are testifying today have shared, this investment in perinatal SUD treatment will provide significant long-term cost-savings to the state of Oregon. Please support this sound investment in Oregon's future.

Thank you for your consideration,

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