

Chair Reynolds, members of the committee,

My name is Alice. I am from Portland, Oregon, and I am a birth and postpartum doula. I am writing you to support of SB 692 and SB 693.

Every day, I witness the profound impact that compassionate, continuous support has on birthing people and their families. I have held the hands of those who felt unheard in medical spaces, reassured parents navigating fear and uncertainty, and provided care that stretches far beyond the moment of birth. But the reality is, too many families don't have access to this kind of support simply because the perinatal workforce is undervalued and unsustainable.

For me, SB 692 and SB 693, are about ensuring that every birthing person, no matter their background, has access to the care they deserve. They are about recognizing the labor of those who dedicate themselves to improving maternal and infant health, reducing disparities, and creating a future where birth is safer, more supported, and more equitable. More than that, they help build a system where individuals and families can truly thrive.

In times like these, it is up to each and everyone of us to ensure that our communities get the support they so deeply need.

I urge you to vote **YES** on SB 692 and SB 693.

Best regards,

Alice Kennerly