

Submitter: Mizan Gaillard
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB692

Dear Senate Early Childhood and Behavioral Health Committee,
I'm a medical student with a strong interest in early childhood (brain) development. I've learned through my coursework, research projects, clinical, and personal experiences how much of a positive difference stable, safe, and loving environments are for children's development in general, but especially their socio-emotional and brain development. A critical component of these environments are well-trained, culturally-relevant clinicians specializing in peri- and postnatal care, including doulas, lactation consultants, and community health workers. The earlier children (and their families) have access to effective healthcare and community support, the better. I urge you to support SB 692, which will establish a community-based perinatal provider access program to increase access to culturally specific perinatal services and culturally competent perinatal services providers. Your consideration of my testimony is much appreciated, and thank you for your work to make a healthier Oregon.