



March 10, 2025

Senator Lisa Reynolds, MD
900 Court St. NE, S-409
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Reynolds and Members of the Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health,

My name is Andrea Keating, and I am the president of the Oregon Midwifery Council (OMC). I am writing to urge you to vote yes on SB 1039, a critical step toward improving outcomes for mothers and babies in Oregon. This bill will renew stable funding for the Oregon Perinatal Collaborative (OPC), an organization dedicated to creating and implementing statewide maternal and infant health quality improvement initiatives.

Since its founding in 2012, OPC has built strong partnerships with healthcare providers across diverse settings that support pregnant, birthing, and postpartum mothers and their infants. By collaborating with hospitals, doctors, nurses, doulas, and midwives, OPC bridges gaps in the healthcare system, breaking down silos, fostering communication, and eliminating barriers to care. This collaborative approach not only enhances the quality of care across Oregon, but it also creates a more integrated and efficient healthcare network. As a key partner to the OMC in efforts to improve quality and care coordination, we see firsthand the positive impact OPC's work has on midwives throughout the state, strengthening our collective ability to serve Oregon families.

Investing in OPC is a wise and responsible use of taxpayer dollars. Pregnancy and infancy are critical windows of opportunity for improving long-term health outcomes, and this investment delivers one of the highest returns in terms of both public health and cost savings.

Oregon is currently facing a maternal and infant health crisis. The need for effective, statewide solutions has never been more urgent. State-level Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (PQCs) like OPC represent the gold standard in addressing this crisis by providing data-driven, evidence-based strategies to improve care.

I urge you to support SB 1039 and ensure that Oregon's mothers and babies receive the care they deserve.

Sincerely,

Andrea Keating, CPM, LDM
President, Oregon Midwifery Council
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