## ALYSON DAY

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## March 18, 2025

Oregon Representatives Senate Committee Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

## Dear Oregon Representatives:

As you hear SB 1167, I am writing to request your support in co-signing LC4139 for the Early Childhood Behavior Health Committee funding the Birth Village. This initiative is an important ask for the Portland area as we continue to see disparities in maternal healthcare. We need midwives, doulas, and community healthcare workers who can address the care and concerns of mothers and their babies during pregnancy and through the first year postpartum. As a doula, perinatal mental healthcare worker, and a mother, I see the impact that community care can have on the outcomes of families. Parenthood can be daunting for even the most resourced mother. When we can offer culturally competent care and perinatal educational opportunities, we can create birthing people who will welcome the next generation with more confidence and less fear. A Birthing Village in Portland, OR, will work to center families when they need it the most. Oregon has an opportunity to once again be at the forefront of progressive models of care as we consider the first 1,000 days. Please help the Black Futures for Perinatal Health Collective deliver on the promise that all mothers and babies deserve care that leads to a healthy outcome by co-signing LC4139.

Sincerely,

ALYSON DAY