

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to express my support of House Bill 611 concerning Medicaid coverage of doula services. As a mother of three, I am well aware of the importance of support during labor for all women. This is vital for minority women who are four times more likely than white women to die during labor. One of my dear friends is a doula and I have heard her stories of advocating for minority women in birth -- including an African refugee woman who didn't speak English who was being pressured toward negative interventions in horrifying ways. This is important.

Thank you for hearing my voice.

Sincerely,

Amanda McGill
Xenia, Ohio