

Chairwoman Manchester, Vice Chair Cutrona, Ranking Member Denson, and Members of the House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee – thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on HB 496.

My name is Mandy and I am a member of the McArthur Amish Community in rural Vinton County, Ohio. We are blessed with three healthy children. Two of them were born at home and with one we ended up at the hospital. It is really important to be able to have our midwives by our sides while in the hospital (if a home birth has complications that we need to go to the hospital). That way, we do not have complete strangers while giving birth. It is really important for our midwives to be able to legally carry lifesaving medications and order ultrasounds and labs so we can be comfortable to have safe homebirths. This is why I support HB 496.

Thank you for taking the time to read our testimony.

Alvin and Mandy Yoder