

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. I choose home childbirth as it's more affordable and we live in a rural community 40 minutes away from medical care. Therefore, I think it is very needful to have licensing for midwives to support our community. I understand the importance to have legalized midwives to serve our communities. Therefore, medications, ultrasounds, and labs would be available to us when we need them. I think it very important to have those things available as it could mean saving lives. I understand the importance of having our midwives supported and protected, so they can better serve our communities. This is why we are in support HB 496.

I thank you kindly for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely, David and Susan Hershberger