

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 Anna Yoder and I am a member of the McArthur (Amish) community in rural Vinton County, Ohio. I am a mother of three children and have had had midwife for all three of them. Myself and my community support HB 496 as it would increase safety if we wish to have a home birth by allowing our midwife to legally carry lifesaving medications and order ultrasounds and labs legally. Thankfully our midwife has ways of doing these things and getting medications but we want her to be legally allowed to have easy access to these things for the safety of our women and babies. With my last baby, I hemorrhaged badly after birth and I was grateful my midwife had lifesaving medications for me. Our community is rural and it takes 30 minutes in an ambulance to reach the hospital in an emergency. This is why I support HB 496.

Thank you for allowing me to provide this testimony.

Anna Yoder