

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

I am Tanya Rable-Collins, a Certified Professional Midwife. I have been in practice for 22 years, working as a member of the CHOICE group practice. Center for Humane Options In Childbirth Experiences (CHOICE) is a local non-profit that has existed for 45 years. We offer a variety of educational services to the public as well as training Certified Professional Midwives, monitrics and doulas. We also provide CPMs for home birth support, and have the largest group practice in Ohio. During our time in existence we have attended over 4000 births.

We have been participating in the Midwives Alliance of North America Statistics Project collection program since 1996. MANA starting having midwives prospectively register their births so the data collected would be more useful in 2004. Since then, our practice attended over 1400 births, and have worked with 89 mothers with prior C-sections. Our VBAC success rate is 82.4 with no maternal or fetal mortality or morbidity. We also have attended 10 vaginal breech births, and 5 births of twins, again all with no maternal or fetal mortality or morbidity. We firmly believe that attending these types of births needs to continue to be in the autonomous scope of practice of Certified Professional Midwives.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Tanya L. Rable-Collins