

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 am a birth doula and mother of 5. Pam was my midwife for my last birth.

It is important that midwives are licensed to practice due to the many interventions imposed on families giving birth. Some families choose to birth in the comfort of their home, where they feel safe with less interventions. Midwives should have access to all necessary equipment to do proper assessment of safety and knowing that the mother is low risk to birth at home. Midwives are more cost effective, versus the cost of care with an OB Gyn and hospital cost.

I am very much supportive of HB 496.

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