



July 30, 2020

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to show my support for the EOHHS budget in support of Medicaid coverage for perinatal doula services. Research has shown the amazing impact doula services can have on maternal-child health and well-being and birth outcomes. As a Nurse Home Visitor I have worked with many moms who could greatly benefit from doula services- whether it be because they do not have anyone to be with them during the birth, or they are high risk and the supportive presence of a trained birth professional throughout their labor would greatly increase the chance of them having a positive and healthy birth experience. I have luckily been able to find volunteer doulas for a few of my clients and it has made a world of difference for them, but doulas invest a lot of time and money into their training and should be adequately compensated for the crucial service they provide. Funding doula care would both save the state money and has the potential to save lives.

Thank you,

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