

## Chris O'Brien

---

**From:** Aliza Zollman <aczollman@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 5, 2026 2:03 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support, House Bill 8174 Requiring Medicaid Coverage of Certified Professional Midwives

You don't often get email from aczollman@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony today. My name is Aliza Zollman and I'm writing in strong support of 8174 Bill. Thank you to House Representatives Stewart, Tanzi, Voas, Giraldo, Furtado, Alzate, Cruz, Casimiro, Edwards, and Diaz for co-sponsoring.

The statistics show that home births are significantly less expensive and provide better birth outcomes in terms of satisfaction and lowering rates of intervention. Further, Rhode Island has seen an increase in births attended by midwives in past years. Rhode Island has one of the highest low-risk cesarean birth rates in the country (27.5% of births in 2023), and we can help lower this by making midwifery care more accessible.

I urge you to strongly support the passage of House Bill 8174.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.