

To: House Health and Human Services Committee

From: Diana

Date: March 13, 2025

Re: House Bill 5858 - Prescriptive Authority for Certified Professional Midwives

Madam Chair and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony today. Thank you to Representatives Stewart, Alzate, Cruz, Shallcross Smith, Kislak, Potter, McGaw, and Casimiro for sponsoring this bill.

My name is Diana and I'm writing in support of House Bill 5858. This bill establishes the scope of Certified Professional Midwives' practice and authority related to prescribing medication for their patients. This will allow CPMs to independently care for their patients and allow the potential of this growing workforce to be fully realized.

Allowing Certified Professional Midwives (CPMs) to prescribe medication for well woman care and out-of-hospital births would make a huge difference for me and my family. It's often so hard to get in with a primary care provider just to get a prescription for something my CPM is trained to handle—whether it's prenatal vitamins, medication for conditions like gestational diabetes, or postpartum care. It's frustrating having to take time off work, find childcare, and wait for appointments that delay the care I need. If my CPM could prescribe these medications, it would save so much time and stress, allowing me to stay with a provider I trust and avoid unnecessary visits to other doctors. It would make everything smoother, keep my care more consistent, and reduce the burden of navigating an already complicated healthcare system. It would make me feel supported and more in control of my health and my family's well-being.

I urge you to pass House Bill 5858 to ensure that certified professional midwives can practice to the fullest of their training and ability and prescribe medication for their patients and for the wellbeing of all future mothers. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.