

**Written Testimony-Individual  
Rhode Island General Assembly**

**To:** House Health and Human Services Committee

**From:** **EDOUARD ANTONIO LATORTUE**

**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 Edouard Antonio Latortue 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.

Establishing the scope of practice CPMs related to prescribing medication for well woman/well body care and out of hospital birth will support the families that I serve. I have taught many childbirth education classes. In addition to this, my students are concerned about having the best possible health outcome with their pregnancies.

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 together we can assist in improving maternal health outcomes in Rhode Island. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.