

To: Senate Health and Human Services Committee
From: James and Christina Frye
Date: February 3, 2026
Re: Support, House Bill 7275 Requiring Insurance Coverage of Certified Professional Midwives

Madame Chairwoman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony today. Our names are James and Christina Frye, and we are writing in support of 7275 Bill. Thank you to House Representative Stewart and Representative Donovan, Boylan, Cotter, Caldwell, Fogarty, Cruz, Giraldo, Place and Kislik for co-sponsoring.

We will be welcoming our fifth child this year and we are going to have an out-of-hospital, home birth. We have had four other births in local hospitals in Rhode Island. We are making financial sacrifices to be able to have an out-of-hospital birth. However, we almost couldn't afford it as our insurance would not cover the services provided by the CPMs, nor would insurance provide coverage for the necessary tests, ultrasounds and labs ordered by CPMs. The level of care and attention that we have already received from our CPMs is incredible. We wish that insurance would have covered the CPMs for not only the out of hospital birth, prenatal care, tests and ultrasounds, but also for well woman/well body care.

Now is the chance for that to happen!

I urge you to strongly support the passage of House Bill 7275 to ensure that all families in Rhode Island have access to insurance coverage of CPMs and can experience the level of care that these highly trained, professional, caring and dedicated CPMs provide. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
James and Christina Frye