

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

**From: Laura Blackwell**

**Date: 2/3/2026**

**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. My name is **Laura Blackwell** and I'm writing in support of 7275 Bill . Thank you to House Representative Stewart and Representative Donovan, Boylan, Cotter, Caldwell, Fogarty, Cruz, Giraldo, Place and Kislak for co-sponsoring.

**I feel that women should be allowed to make the best and safest choices for their families. Often that is birthing at home with a CPM... less stress on the mother, newborn and family. But this choice often cannot be made without insurance coverage.**

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 the ability to birth and receive care at home, increasing the total wellbeing of their families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Thank you –

Laura Blackwell

Newport, RI 02840