

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

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