

Comment Report

HF 2547

A bill for an act relating to midwife licensure, providing for fees, and making penalties applicable.
(Formerly HF 2291, HSB 123.)

Subcommittee Members: Cournoyer-CH, Jochum, Schultz

Date: 03/15/2022

Time: 01:30 PM

Location: Room G15

Name: Stephen Pedron

Comment: Good evening Senators,I am a Maternal Fetal Medicine specialist in Cedar Rapids. Our family moved here from Arizona in 2018, where Certified Professional Midwives (CPMs) are recognized. I was disappointed to learn that they are not in Iowa. This is costing maternal lives.I am strongly in support of this bill, midwifery licensure, and expanding access to community midwifery.Although regrettably I am not available your subcommittee meeting tomorrow, I am at your service as a resource on HF 2547, or any other work you do.Thank you all so very deeply for your own service to Iowans. I know you are very busy and genuinely appreciate your taking the time to look these materials over.Please vote yes on HF 2547.Warm regards,SteveStephen L Pedron, MD, MBA (he/him/his)Perinatal MedicineCell 319.654.2252

Name: Jordan Bruns

Comment: I am a licensed pharmacist in the state of Iowa writing to express support for HF 2547 regarding midwifery licensure. The bill passed the House last week 932 and is awaiting a subcommittee in the Senate State Government Committee.As a member of a profession that undergoes licensure, I feel that licensure is an important step to take for midwifery. Benefits of licensure include ensuring competency, maintaining/updating knowledge base, and enhancing access to important tools in practice. Detriments to licensure are nonexistent from my point of view, as midwives are already practicing in the state, and licensure would only improve their ability to do so safely and effectively.Licensure is critical to ensure Certified Professional Midwives have the ability to order necessary labs and medications within their scope of practice, which is currently the case in 37 other states and DC. As a pharmacist licensed in 16 states, Iowa should join the majority of the country in ensuring midwives are regulated to improve communication and integration within the state's health care infrastructure including pharmacies, clinics, and hospitals.Iowa is experiencing a lack of access to maternal care, attracting new healthcare workers would be a major benefit, as licensing and legitimizing the practice will allow more providers to feel safe to do so in this state. Improving access to care for anyone is a wonderful thing, and doing so for maternal health is of the utmost importance. Please support this bill when you have the opportunity to do so.Jordan Bruns, Des Moines, Iowa 50321

Name: Mikayla Stagg

Comment: I am writing to express my support for this bill. I moved to Iowa from New York in 2018, for many reasons, but a huge one being freedoms and liberties being protected in Iowa. This should include the freedom to choose safe homebirth with professionals whose licensing is recognized! I had a beautiful homebirth in November of 2020 and the care I received from my midwives and their team was 10/10 better than any care I have received with my previous 2 births in hospital.

They were professional, knowledgeable, understanding, and caring. Please allow them to fully practice within their scope by voting yes on this bill