The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Maria Caudle, representing Birthmatters, LLC

Written Testimony for "Healthcare Facility Licensure Regulations"

Thank you for all your consideration and to the DPH and the efforts of so many that have brought us to this pivotal moment.

We are a group practice, Birthmatters, serving the commonwealth since 2008. We provide homebirth services in all of eastern MA. We have a thriving practice attending 10-14 families each month with a waitlist. We are so inspired by the opportunity to serve a greater population in collaboration with other community resources in the future. Really excited about the changing landscape and progress we are making. We support and train many students, this is a cornerstone of not only our practice but the future options available to families in MA.

We are in support of:

CPMs included as clinical provider in all aspects of owning operating and working at birth centers with equal responsibility and access as any other provider outlined.

Removing current equipment requirements that are not aligned with the national guidelines set out by AACB Which are currently a cost barrier to the set up/opening of independent birth centers.

Expanding the role of birth assistant in a birth center to include all qualified, applicants outside of a RN with hospital, labor and delivery experience.

Expanding the role of a clinical Director of a birth center to include a wide variety of backgrounds, not just restricted to clinical healthcare experience.

Removing restrictions surrounding abortion care within the birth and the ability for patients to leave with take-home medications

Signed by,

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