



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1400

Michele Meyer

58 Odiorne Lane

Eliot, ME 03903

Phone: (207) 438-9197

Michele.Meyer@legislature.maine.gov

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Testimony of Rep. Michele Meyer introducing
**LD 1205, An Act Regarding the Scope of Practice of Certified Professional
Midwives and Certified Midwives**
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, I am Representative Michele Meyer, and I proudly represent the town of Eliot and parts of Kittery and South Berwick in the Maine House.

At the direction of this Committee, the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation convened stakeholders, including inpatient obstetrical providers and certified professional midwives, over the interim to discuss potential opportunities for partnership and collaboration on **LD 1205, An Act Regarding the Scope of Practice of Certified Professional Midwives and Certified Midwives**.

In those meetings, there was common agreement that the data licensed midwives are required to report to the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers in statute is not producing usable data. Today, I planned to present an amendment to LD 1205 that we negotiated in good faith with the midwifery community that helped to address the data reporting concerns raised in those meetings. Unfortunately, it was shared with me this weekend that the licensed midwives, after agreeing to support this amendment, are now opposed. To say that I am disappointed is an understatement.

Before I close, I would like to thank the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation for their work in convening stakeholders – and this Committee for allowing us additional time to work on this legislation. I wish that the outcome had been different. With that said, I would ask the Committee to vote Ought Not to Pass.

Thank you.