



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1446</b>		DATE: <b>2/13/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Healthcare Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ASHLEY JAWORSKI</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>ashleyjaworski89@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 9:45 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>BILL ANDERSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-893-3700</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>4712 COUNTRY CLUB DR.</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CAROLINE GRACE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>carolinegrace@charter.net</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 10:45 AM</b>
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Doulas are an important part of the pregnancy care team and have been shown to increase patient satisfaction. HB1446 and 2632 would create a path for Doula registration and ultimately reimbursement when serving pregnant patients insured through Medicaid.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CHASE CAMPBELL</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-864-0972</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>WINTON POLICY GROUP, BJC HEALTH</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>124 E HIGH ST</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DIANE M. MEEKER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-234-0342</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN; COLUMBIA AREA NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN</b>		TITLE: <b>PRESIDENT</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>2000 W. BUSINESS LOOP 70, STE 118</b>			
CITY: <b>COLUMBIA</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65202</b>
EMAIL: <b>columbiamonow@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 9:32 AM</b>	

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Doulas are an essential part of the reproductive healthcare provider network and are uniquely able to provide supportive care to pregnant people no matter their decision or pregnancy outcome. Our state and region suffer high rates of maternal mortality. Increasing access to doulas is proven to improve birth outcomes and is an essential component of addressing the issue. Also, it is important to include funding for community-based doulas as well as those connected to a hospital or medical practice in order to ensure as many as possible Missourians and Missouri families have access to these essential services. We urge support of HB 1446.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>HAKIMA PAYNE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>hakima@uzazivillage.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/12/2024 9:19 PM</b>

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Missouri needs to reimburse doulas as a part of a multifaceted approach to health equity.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>HAKIMA PAYNE</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>913-638-0716</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>UZAZI VILLAGE</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>4232 TROOST AVE</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64110</b>
EMAIL: <b>hakima@uzazivillage.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 10:31 AM</b>	
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<b>Uzazi Village stands in support of insurance coverage of doulas</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>HANNAH GREEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>hannahsgreen@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 8:13 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Doulas are a critical component of reproductive care. After two pregnancies and births, I know first hand how important it was to have a doula by my side, supporting me and working with my nurse and doctor. Access to doulas has been proven to improve birth outcomes. No one in Missouri should be denied access because they cannot pay for this critical service. Please pass this important bill and help reduce maternal mortality and decrease racial disparities in birthing outcomes in our state.





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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JOYCE KELLER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>jmkeller99@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 11:35 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**Doula services are very beneficial to the health of the mother and the child. They support a healthy pregnancy and reduce the risks involved with pregnancy and delivery. After delivery service very important. Women of all income groups often need the informational and emotional support because they are at a distance from family members**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATHERINE GLADHART-HAYES</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>katherine.gladhart.hayes@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 10:30 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**Doula services are critical healthcare services that improve perinatal health outcomes. With so many Missourians lacking nearby access to perinatal healthcare services, expanding insurance coverage to increase access to these supports is crucial.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATHLEEN PICHON HELLMANN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>ktpichon@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 8:34 AM</b>
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Doula services are an important part of health care for pregnant people, supporting the healthy birth of children, and the care for their parents. It should be considered health care and covered by health insurance providers.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATIE BAYLIE</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>405-900-4319</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>PLANNED PARENTHOOD GREAT PLAINS VOTES</b>		TITLE: <b>DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>4401 W 109TH ST.</b>			
CITY: <b>OVERLAND PARK</b>		STATE: <b>KS</b>	ZIP: <b>64114</b>
EMAIL: <b>katie.baylie@ppgreatplains.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 11:12 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LAURA BURKHARDT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>laburkhardt3@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 7:23 PM</b>
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House Bill 1446 is a long overdue bill, and I want to thank Representative Johnson for bringing this legislation to the table. Missouri's maternal mortality rate is terrifying, and this bill, which will allow more women to have access to doulas, will save lives. I strongly urge the committee to vote yes on HB 1446.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LESLIE DERRINGTON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>lederrington@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/12/2024 7:14 PM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MAGGIE EDMONDSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: <b>ABORTION ACTION MISSOURI (FORMERLY PRO CHOICE MISSOURI)</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>1210 S VANDEVENTER AVE</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63110</b>
EMAIL: <b>maggie@abortionactionmissouri.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/12/2024 5:48 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Chair, Vice-Chair, members of the committee; thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of HBs 1446 & 2632 to support the health outcomes of Missourians who rely on Medicaid for pregnancy and postpartum care. Abortion Action Missouri, formerly Pro Choice Missouri, works to protect and expand every Missourians’ right to bodily autonomy, to access essential reproductive healthcare including abortion care, to access accurate information to make the best decisions for ourselves and our families, and to parent our children in safety and dignity. For individuals who want to start or grow their families in Missouri, our state remains one of the most dangerous to give birth; Missouri ranks 44th in the country for maternal mortality and Black birthing parents are 3-4 times more likely to die within a year of pregnancy than their white counterparts. For many reasons, including structural racism and implicit bias in medicine, the closure of seven rural hospitals in MO since 2014, a growing number of people falling in the insurance gap, and continued attacks on abortion and reproductive healthcare access, the maternal and infant mortality rates in MO continue to rival that of both peer and less-resourced nations. In short; restrictions on reproductive health care access lead to poor reproductive health outcomes. The Missouri Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review Report found that the pregnancy-related mortality ratio (PRMR) in Missouri is four times greater for Black women than white women at 87.6 per 100,000 live births. The same review board found that 82% of pregnancy-related deaths in Missouri were “determined to be preventable.” Recommendations for addressing racial and economic disparities in maternal health in Missouri named in the report include increased access to mental health resources throughout pregnancy, increased coverage of postpartum care for low-income mothers and families, and increased uniformity in trauma-informed and culturally competent practices. Doula services empower Missourians to have healthy and safe pregnancies and to give birth in safe and supportive environments on their own terms. This bill would allow for Missourians’ access to these vital resources to be more equitable and accessible to people and families without the resources to pay out of pocket. LaKisha Redditt of the St. Louis Doula Project notes that, “Culturally competent care means you understand the health disparities and inequities that happen to Black and brown people and our white counterparts,” Redditt says. “We [doulas] look at care from a lens of what happened to a person, as opposed to what’s wrong with them.” Increasing access to doulas, particularly for Black women and birthing parents, is proven to improve birth outcomes and is an essential component of addressing the high rates of maternal mortality in our region. Often efforts to fund doulas require them to be connected to a hospital or large practice– This excludes community based doulas, often with some of the strongest connections to their communities, from access to support. This bill would create a registration service for doulas who want their clients to have access to state reimbursement for their services, but would not prevent doulas from operating

without registration. Doulas are an essential part of the reproductive healthcare provider network and are uniquely able to provide supportive care to pregnant people no matter their decision or pregnancy outcome. Doulas are also trusted sources on reproductive health education such as providing information related to fertility, nutrition, contraception, pregnancy health, breastfeeding, and quality infant care. Abortion Action Missouri, representing more than 60,000 Missourians across the state, urges you to improve health outcomes for all Missouri parents and children by advancing this bill. Thank you.





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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARGARET GRAY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>mgray813@outlook.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 5:14 PM</b>
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**I support this bills. It is important to provide the resources of birthing healthcare to our neighbors who can't afford or access it now. To many sacrifices have been made to the health of mothers and infants, and these measures would help mitigate that.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARY ANN PERKINS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>a3tha@hotmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 5:16 PM</b>
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**My first child was born with the help of a doula. It helped me to feel safe during an experience when my life hung in the balance. Their caring, professional support of my birth experience is something I will never forget, and I hope that every mother-to-be has access to the same care. Insurance should cover this because it improves health outcomes for mothers and babies. It saves lives and denying coverage will put the most vulnerable women at greater risk. Ultimately, this is a good investment.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MURIEL SMITH</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-624-0888</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>ST. LOUIS AREA DIAPER BANK</b>		TITLE: <b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>
ADDRESS: <b>6141 ETZEL AVENUE,</b>		
CITY: <b>SAINT LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>63133</b>
EMAIL: <b>msmith@stldiaperbank.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/12/2024 4:32 PM</b>

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**As of November 2022, more than half of all states offer Medicaid coverage for doula care, are implementing it, or are taking some action related to it. Six states reimburse for doula services in Medicaid: Oregon, Minnesota, New Jersey, Florida, Maryland, and Virginia. Doula's provide much-needed support to pregnant people and should be able to be compensated for their services and treated like other healthcare professionals. Two of my staff credit their doulas for helping them get through their pregnancy.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>OKUNSOLA M. AMADOU</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-365-2695</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>JAMAA BIRTH VILLAGE</b>		TITLE: <b>FOUNDER &amp; CEO (MIDWIFE &amp; DOULA)</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>40 N FLORISSANT RD.</b>			
CITY: <b>SAINT LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63135</b>
EMAIL: <b>okunsola@jamaabirthvillage.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/12/2024 11:31 PM</b>	
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Jamaa Birth Village supports HB 1446. Doulas should be accessible, affordable and reimbursed by private insurance at an equitable wage.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>PATRICIA S DANIEL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>sdaniel.mo@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 11:23 AM</b>

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**I support this bill which would allow for insurance reimbursement of doula services for Missourians.**



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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>REV. KIMBERLY MASON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>kimamason@gmail.com</b>		ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 5:24 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Midwifery and doula services empower Missourians and Missouri families to have healthy and safe pregnancies and to give birth in safe and supportive environments on their own terms. This bill would allow for Missourians' access to these vital resources to be more equitable and accessible to people and families without the resources to pay out of pocket. Increasing access to doulas, particularly for Black women and birthing parents, is proven to improve birth outcomes and is an essential component of addressing the high rates of maternal mortality in our state and region. The Missouri Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review 2023 Report named increased uniformity in trauma-informed and culturally competent practices in its recommendations for addressing racial disparities in the maternal health crisis in Missouri. This is care that doulas and midwives have been entrusted with especially in Black communities. Please support this vital service.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SAMUEL H. LEE</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-368-4242</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>CAMPAIGN LIFE MISSOURI</b>		TITLE: <b>DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>P.O. BOX 142585</b>			
CITY: <b>SAINT LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63114</b>
EMAIL: <b>samuelhlee@mindspring.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/12/2024 11:13 PM</b>	
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COMMITTEE: <b>Healthcare Reform</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH SCHLEMEIER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-634-4876</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS; HEALTH FORWARD FOUNDATION</b>		TITLE: <b>LOBBYIST</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>213 EAST CAPITOL AVE</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>sgh@molobby.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 2:20 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Health Forward and the American College of ObGyns would like to support the reimbursement for doula services to serve as another support system for those who are pregnant and post partum





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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAI GOMEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>gomezs@chsstl.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 10:01 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am writing today to ask you to support HB1918/HB2626. I am an employee at the Center for Hearing & Speech and I have seen first hand how access to communication is vital for the overall health of individuals. I have witnessed patients being isolated, depressed and suicidal because they cannot afford proper amplification. By supporting HB1918/HB2626 not only will you change peoples lives, but it will also help our economy in the long run.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SAUL GLIST</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>saulglist@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 8:22 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**This is a non-partisan issue-pregnant women should have access to a variety of care options throughout the process. Missouri should support women in this process by reimbursing doula services which go a long way to bridge the gaps in both urban and rural settings.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>STACEY WALKER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>stacey.walker007@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 4:56 PM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN GIBSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>Onesuegibson@protonmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/10/2024 1:03 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>TARA ANURA</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-217-4466</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>PRO-CHOICE MID-MISSOURI</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>2020 HWY E APT C</b>		
CITY: <b>ROLLA</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65401</b>
EMAIL: <b>taraanuraformissouri@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/12/2024 7:39 PM</b>

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I am the co-founder of Pro-Choice Mid-Missouri. Pro-Choice Mid Missouri, started out as Rolla Pro-Choice in May 2022. We promote reproductive justice through non-violent direct action. Members include people from across Mid-Missouri. We are 278 members strong. Pro-Choice Mid-Missouri supports HB 1446 - Johnson - HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OF DOULA SERVICES. The deadly reality is pregnant Missourians are forced to carry to term when our State's maternal and infant mortality rate is the highest in the entire US. It is highest even among Western industrialized nations. Pregnant resident's lives depend on local and affordable doula care. This bill will allow health insurance to cover doula services which will increase Missourian's chances of surviving labor and their children to survive birth.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JAMES D PIERCE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>piercejim@hotmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 10:32 AM</b>

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**A majority support personal responsibility, personal freedom, choice, and freedom from contorted religious minority views being imposed on the citizens of Missouri. Vote no.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JANICE INGRAM</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>empowersoulitude@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/12/2024 7:40 AM</b>

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**With statement for doula approval process, I am opposed to the defining bodies.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JUSTICE GATSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-945-0841</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>REALE JUSTICE NETWORK; MO-KAN BIPOC REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE COALITION</b>		TITLE: <b>SOCIAL JUSTICE DOULA/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>3940 VINEYARD RD</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64130</b>
EMAIL: <b>realejustice17@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 3:01 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Good afternoon. My name is Justice Gatson. I'm representing reproductive justice organizers in our state. We support insurance reimbursements for doulas. We do have concerns around the ability of the named governing body to implement the necessary infrastructure to formalize this process. We want to ensure that history doesn't repeat itself by pushing public policy that doesn't fully account for historical harms that have occurred such as the current Black perinatal & infant crisis. Missouri is on the precipice of creating history with the passage of this bill. This is an amazing opportunity to embed equity into this process by naming Uzazi Village and Jamaa Birth Village as the leading trailblazing organizations whose work has been rooted in decreasing infant and perinatal morbidity and increasing the number of healthy, joy filled labors and births for families across Missouri. These organizations should be deeply involved in all future matters concerning infrastructure, governance and roll out. They should be consulted with for their expertise and tenure in this profession. We hope that you will consider our suggestions in your work moving forward. Thanks for your time and attention. Best regards, Justice Gatson Social Justice Doula Executive Director Reale Justice Network MO-KAN BIPOC Reproductive Justice Coalition





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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICHAEL J. HENDERSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-893-4241</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI INSURANCE COALITION</b>		TITLE: <b>GENERAL COUNSEL &amp; GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>220 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE B</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>mike@moinsurancecoalition.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 9:09 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. The Missouri Insurance Coalition will provide testimony for informational purposes.</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>RIEKA YU</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MOST POLICY INITIATIVE</b>		TITLE: <b>POLICY FELLOW</b>
ADDRESS:		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b> ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>rieka@mostpolicyinitiative.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 8:37 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Hello Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Dr. Rieka Yu from MOST Policy Initiative. We are a non-profit that provides non-partisan research to the Missouri legislature. Today I will be testifying about our science note on insurance coverage of doula services. A doula is a certified non-medical professional. They provide emotional support and education during pregnancy, labor, delivery, and after birth. In Missouri maternal mortality rate is 25% higher than the national average. Older ages, medical conditions, carrying multiple babies, and c-sections increase the risk of negative maternal and infant outcomes. Nationally, black women have more c-sections than white women do. Globally, doula care during labor and delivery leads to fewer c-sections and more vaginal births without interventions. Doulas are also associated with better birth experiences with some mothers saying they felt more involved in decisions and better supported with doulas. States that cover doula services through Medicaid have it as an optional benefit or a preventative service. Some evidence suggests doula services are cost effective for Medicaid because there are fewer medical interventions when doulas are present, but there is not information on the effect of coverage for patient premiums. MO launched a doula pilot program in 2022 for Healthy Blue patients in select cities. In this program, Healthy Blue pays doulas upfront for a certain number of clients each year. However, program output data is still unavailable. Our science note goes further into potential barriers to Medicaid coverage, demographic information about mothers, and other doula outcome data.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SANDRA THORNHILL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>sacredorganizedspaces@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 2:20 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

As a doula with roots tracing back to 2021 with initial training from Uzazi Village as a community doula, my mission has always been clear: to serve my community and extended family with unwavering dedication. Beyond simply being a presence on the front lines, I've emerged as a staunch defender of the sovereignty of our birthing experiences, advocating passionately for birthing individuals from the intimate setting of the birthing room to the grandeur of the Nation's Capitol. In my role as a Social Justice Doula and reproductive justice advocate, I seamlessly blend my background in public administration and policy to offer holistic support to clients. Whether in the sacred space of the birthing room or amidst the corridors of legislative power, I stand alongside those whose birth experiences are shaped by policy discussions. My clientele includes individuals who rely on state benefits like Medicaid, and I recognize the significance of fair reimbursement that would come from insurance companies—a recognition that fuels my firm belief that doulas deserve just compensation for our evidence-based, life-affirming care. I wholeheartedly believe that doulas deserve to be compensated appropriately for the work we do to assist birthing people during and after their pregnancy. We bring a set of skills to the birthing process that helps to educate and prepare for pregnancy, labor, birth, and recovery. As a doula, I provide education, physical, and emotional support. However, this belief is tempered by a critical question: At what cost? As a Social Justice Doula, I refuse to compromise the sovereignty of BIPOC birth workers to be subsumed by a system that has historically perpetuated the very inequities we tirelessly strive to dismantle. I know that if we are not careful, thoughtful, and intentional about how we approach policy and legislation, there is a very real potential for history to repeat itself, to cause harm and undermine Doula work that Black birth workers began in order to address the current Black Infant and parental health crisis that the 1921 Sheppard-Towner Act caused. For these reasons, I will not support the legislation in its current form. I have serious concerns with the non-inclusive language that limits reimbursement for services for birthing people that identify as "women", thus excluding non-binary, trans, and queer identities. Also, the state being the body to review and approve the status of a doula is very concerning to me. The likelihood for unintended consequences is extremely high by positioning the Department of Human and Senior Services (DHSS) as the governing body for regulating Doula services. The state is not prepared for this task. Although, I value the recognition of MCDC (A body of birth workers peers) as a possible consulting community organization to DHSS I still have concern with a state agency being identified as the ultimate authority to register/govern doulas. The language of "shall" vs "must" weakens the bill because it does not require DSS to consult or accept the recommendations of community organizations at all. I do believe that in the near future, DSS would honor the bill's language and take direction from community organizations like MCDC, however, history has shown us that a bill without teeth is symbolic in nature and leaves room for inequities down the road. My trepidation for a symbolic bill (without teeth) is that as priorities and leadership changes overtime, and the relationships and

good faith agreements that exist because of those relationships fade away, we are left with the subjective interpretation of weak legislative language that gives ultimate governing authority to the state over a presently sovereign body of birth workers, doulas. This bill, as written, creates a possible pathway for doulas to face barriers in the future. For this reason, I cannot support the bill wholeheartedly as it is written, however, I support doula reimbursement as a whole.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SHANNON COOPER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>660-890-1432</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>AMERICA'S HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>208 MADISON</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2024 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			