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March 9, 2021

Senator Rhonda Fields
 Senator Tammy Story
 Colorado General Assembly
 200 E Colfax Avenue
 Denver, CO 80203

RE: SB21-101 Sunset Direct-entry Midwives

Dear Senator Fields and Senator Story,

We are writing on behalf of the American Association of Birth Centers (AABC) to express support for SB21-101. This bill would increase access to high-value, high-quality maternal health care by permitting direct-entry midwives to practice in licensed birth centers.

AABC is a membership organization representing freestanding birth centers in Colorado and across the U.S. that sets the standards for safe and optimum practice in birth centers. Over thirty years of data demonstrate that care provided by midwives in birth centers following these standards results in excellent outcomes for mothers and babies. These data include licensed direct-entry midwives who practice in more than half of the freestanding birth centers in the United States.

AABC supports the inclusion of all licensed midwifery providers in birth center regulations and recommends the Colorado General Assembly pass SB21-101.

Respectfully,

Kate E Bauer
 Executive Director

Jill Alliman, DNP, CNM, FACNM
 Chair, AABC Government Affairs Committee