

Talking Points: Essential Pharmaceuticals for License Midwives

- The bill would allow Licensed Midwives to carry specific life-saving medications including anti-hemorrhagics, IV fluids, Vitamin K for newborns, and Rhogam for pregnant people without orders from a physician
- The bill would require approved pharmaceutical training
- The bill would NOT grant any prescriptive authority but would simply remove the standing order requirement for a small number of necessary medications
- Midwives can currently carry these medications under orders of a physician, but it is difficult for many midwives, especially in rural areas to find a willing physician. The bill removes the burden from physicians.
- Midwives are key to expanding access to maternity care, especially in rural areas. This bill removes barriers to increased access to midwifery care.
- Midwives are already trained in using standard of care medications, but this bill would standardize pharmaceutical training.
- Covid-19 has created increased demand for community birth with midwives.
- TDLR is an effective regulatory agency and will ensure that medication use is properly regulated
- TDLR rules limit the types of clients midwives can serve or requires physician consultation for certain risk factors, so only low risk pregnant people and babies are cared for by midwives. Midwives do ongoing risk assessment throughout care to ensure safety and the client is transferred to OB care or the hospital if needed. The medications outlined in the bill will only be administered to low risk clients appropriate for midwifery care.