North American Registry of Midwives

> Providing Certification Standards For Certified Professional Midwives

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Executive Director Phone: 888-8424784 501-296-9769 testing@narm.org www.narm.org To the Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwifery Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development PO Box 110806 Juneau, AK 99811

Attention: Rachel Pugh

Dear Ms Pugh,

This letter is in support of the 5th draft of the revision to the regulations governing the licensure of Certified Professional Midwives in Alaska. The North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) issues the nationally accredited credential Certified Professional Midwife (CPM), which requires both didactic education and a two year period of supervised practicum, followed by an extensive and accredited professional examination. The NARM exam and/or the full CPM credential is the basis for licensure in all states that license direct entry midwives specifically to attend births in out-of-hospital settings.

NARM also advises state programs when creating or revising laws and rules that impact the licensure of CPMs to ensure that the language is consistent with the certification offered by NARM. Ida Darragh, the Executive Director, has worked with board member Rachel Pugh in the recent revisions to the law and rules. NARM is very supportive of the changes that have been made.

NARM strongly urges the adoption of these 2021 rules governing the practice of Licensed Direct Entry Midwives in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Ada Darragh

Ida Darragh Executive Director, North American Registry of Midwives

March 23, 2021