

North American
Registry of Midwives

Providing Certification Standards
For Certified Professional Midwives

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Board of Directors

House Labor and Commerce
3rd Floor, State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear House Labor and Commerce Committee,

Kim Pekin, CPM, LM
Chairperson

Carol Nelson, CPM, LM
Treasurer, Applications

Debbie Pulley, CPM
Public Education & Advocacy
Secretary
1-888-84BIRTH

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Mary Anne Richardson, CPM, LM
Accountability

Adrian Feldhusen, CPM, LM
Professional Development

Marinda Shindler, CPM, LM
Special Projects

Jacqueline Kay Hammack
Public Member

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It has come to the attention of the North American Registry of Midwives that Governor Dunleavy has issued an Executive Order # 130 to remove the Board of Certified Direct Entry Midwives and regulate the practice of direct entry midwifery under the Board of Commerce with no direct input from the licensed midwives in the state. We write this letter to request reconsideration of that change.

The North American Registry of Midwives maintains the accreditation status of the Certified Professional Midwife, (CPM) consistent with the Institute for Credentialing Excellence and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. This assures that the certification program follows the highest standards in identifying the knowledge and skills critical for midwives practicing in homes and birth centers, and maintains the appropriate assessment instruments for determining readiness for practice. The CPM credential is the basis for eligibility for licensure in the 37 states that license direct-entry midwives to attend births outside of the hospital setting.

The North American Registry of Midwives encourages states to involve those licensed in the practice with significant autonomy in the regulation of their profession. The most effective regulation is that which is consistent with the education, assessment, and professional standards of the profession being regulated. Please reconsider this Executive Order in consideration of the value and relevance of the Board of Certified Direct Entry Midwives in Alaska.

Sincerely,



Ida Darragh, Executive Director
North American Registry of Midwives