



Minnesota Coalition
FOR FAMILY HOME VISITING

February 7, 2023

Senator Melissa Wiklund
Chair, Health and Human Services Committee
1200 Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Wiklund and Members of the Committee:

The Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting (MCFHV) urges you to support SF 406 to establish the right for a pregnant patient to have a designated support person present while receiving health care. We believe this public effort to support birthing people will promote healthy pregnancies and positive birth outcomes.

The right for pregnant patients to have a support person while receiving health care is an anti-discrimination strategy to ensure comfort, care and advocacy is accessible to all birthing people in healthcare settings. In Minnesota, Black and Indigenous people are more likely to experience complications during their pregnancies and more likely to die from pregnancy or birth related complications, according to the Minnesota Department of Health's 2022 Maternal Mortality.

A designated support person during pregnancy improves the comfort and ability of the pregnant patient to advocate for what is best for their pregnancy. Please join the Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting in supporting SF 406 for all pregnant people to have healthy pregnancies, births, and babies.

Thank you,

Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn,
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Projects Coordinator

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