

# Legislative and Policy Committee

## Goals:

- Promote and protect midwifery, perinatal health and health equity in WA state
- Support national efforts to increase access to midwives and the midwifery model of care



# Legislative and Policy Committee

## Efforts:

- Influence policy change
- Educate our elected officials including at our annual Midwife Lobby Day
- Communicate the concerns and needs of midwives & families to the Department of Health, the Midwifery Advisory Committee and third party payors



# 2021 Policy Accomplishments

## Sunrise Review in Progress

2021 Health Professions Sunrise Reviews in Progress

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Midwifery scope of practice

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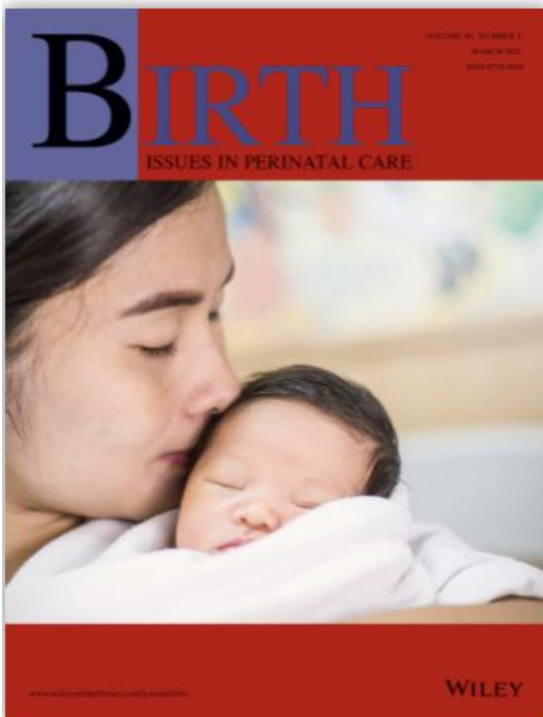
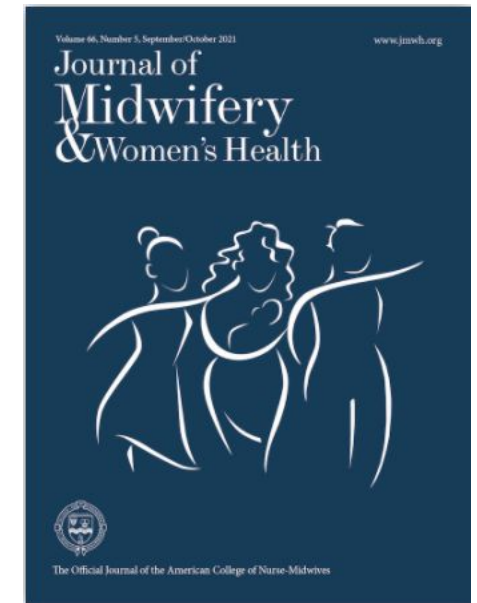
- 134 Page Report to the DOH for Sunrise Review!
- Record turnout for first ever Virtual Lobby Day: More than 150 LMs, midwifery students, and healthcare consumers!

Review

## Increasing Access to Medications and Devices for the Care of Low-Risk Childbearing Families: An Analysis of Existing Law and Strategies for Advocacy

Kristin J. Effland CPM, LM, MA✉, Karen Hays CNM, DNP, ARNP, Britney A. Zell MSM, Tara K. Lawal MS, RN, Rhonda L. Grantham, Megan Koontz CPM, MM

First published: 26 August 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/jmwh.13275>



Birth

## Medication Access & Midwifery Integration: An Example of Community Midwifery Advocacy for Access in Washington State, USA

Open Access <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/birt.12523>

Published Dec 14, 2020

# 2021 Policy Accomplishments



- Cap on the LM licensing fee included in the House, Senate and Governor's budgets as a \$150K line item, securing the continued cap on LM licensing fees for this biennium



# 2021 Policy Accomplishments

## Supported the Passage of the following Bills:

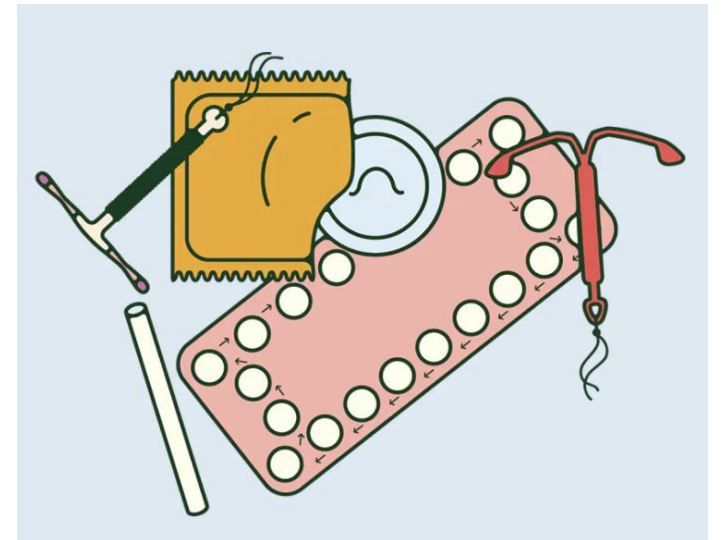
- SB 5068: Extends Medicaid coverage for pregnant and PP people from 60 days to one year, post-pregnancy, specifically for groups that have not qualified for the Medicaid expansion outside of pregnancy
- HB 1031/SB 5072: Certificate of “birth resulting in stillbirth” provides validation and acknowledgment of the family’s experience of birth and not just fetal death
- SB 5140: Protecting pregnancy and miscarriage-related patient care



# Looking Ahead: Legislative and Policy Team

**2022:** Run our Bill for two License Extension options to enable LMs who wish to complete additional training, the ability to:

- Obtain & administer hormonal and non-hormonal contraception & meds for common perinatal conditions such as antibiotics for infections like mastitis
- Insert contraception after supervised demonstration of skills (ie, IUDs & Inserts)



# Looking Ahead: The Birth Center Regulations



Both MAWS and WARM have submitted petitions to review the Washington state birth center regulations. There are multiple areas that could use updating and modernization.

We do have to be careful as we pursue these changes because once opened anyone with an interest in what we do can propose changes.

Meetings will be scheduled in the spring and can be attended by any interested parties. The DOH will be the ones to finalize wording changes and we are hoping to have this completed by the end of 2022.



# Looking Ahead: The Birth Center Regulations



The main areas that will be reviewed are:

- updating gendered language
- working to separate out responsibilities that belong to the midwife rather than the birth center (ie giving RhIG at a follow up visit, filing a birth certificate or collecting a newborn screen)
- streamlining the inspection process to allow CABC inspection to be used in lieu of DOH inspections (but NOT requiring them)
- removing rapid HIV testing language (which no one is currently doing)
- removing language around paper charting
- removing the restriction around prior uterine surgery
- adjusting room size requirements to be more in line with other outpatient facilities
- Indicating a birth center is “B occupancy,” (a maxi-house), and is not like an ambulatory surgery center (a mini-hospital) in terms of the building requirements
- removing requirement to have a neonatal glucometer at the birth center (as expensive equipment can be a barrier for starting a birth center)

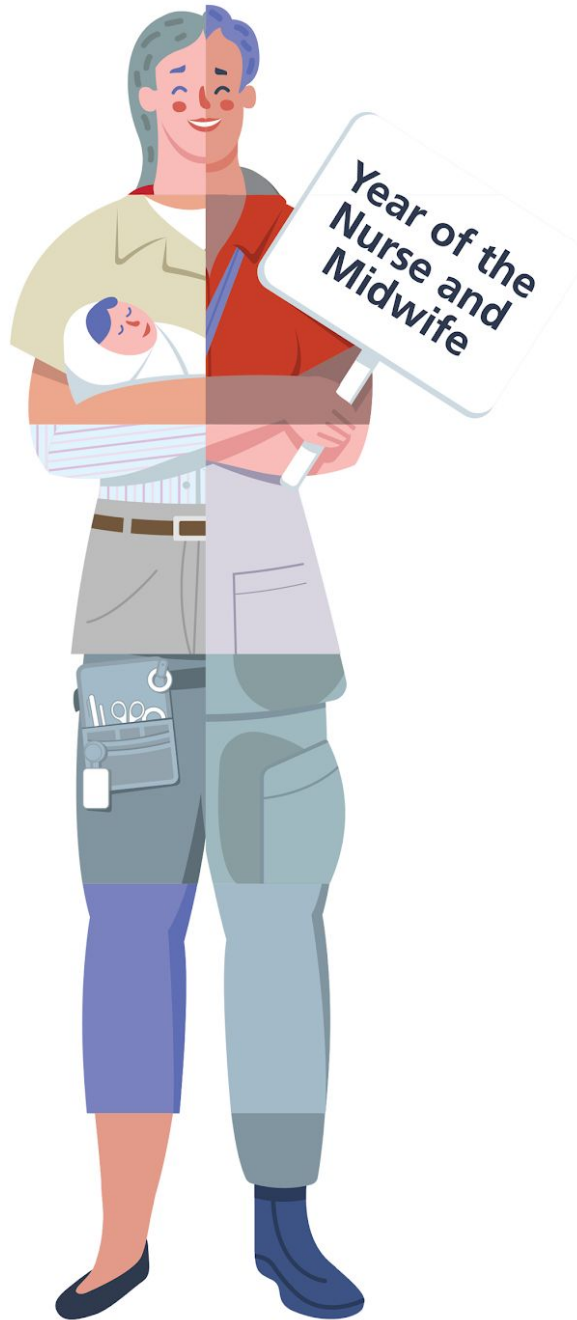


**SAVE**  
*the*  
**DATE**

**VIRTUAL LOBBY DAY**

**01.13.22**

[www.washingtonmidwives.org/lobbyday](http://www.washingtonmidwives.org/lobbyday)



# Calls for Action

- Learn about our Legislative Agenda @ Webinar Friday, January 7, 2022 @ 12 Noon
- Join us for Annual Midwife Lobby Day Thursday, January 13, 2022 starts @ 8am
- Be on alert for updates re: federal bills including the Momnibus!
- Come Be a Part of Our Team - Weekly zoom!  
[info@washingtonmidwives.org](mailto:info@washingtonmidwives.org)



# So Much Thanks to the Team!

## Co-Chairs:

- Kristin Effland & Jen Segadelli

## Awesome Legislative & Health Policy Team:

- Emily Brown
- Cynthia Flynn
- Deborah Gleisner
- Anna Humphreys
- Siri Larson Iverson
- Lynette Pettibone

## Lobbyist:

- Amber Ulvenes





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# Register by Dec 10!

[www.washingtonmidwives.org/lobbyday](http://www.washingtonmidwives.org/lobbyday)

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