

Dear (STATE REPRESENTATIVE NAME) and (STATE SENATOR NAME),

I am a constituent in your district and am writing regarding the closure of New Birth Company birth center as of September 1, 2024. There are no licensed birth centers in the state of Missouri. The closure of the last remaining Midwife Led birth center is devastating for greater Kansas City and western Missouri families.

(INSERT PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH NEW BIRTH COMPANY, WHAT THE BIRTH CENTER MEANS TO YOU, HOW ITS CLOSURE MAY IMPACT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY)

I am asking for your special assistance with the following.

1. Call on Todd Richardson, MoHealthNet Medicaid Director to bring his attention to this tragic situation and [request MoHealthNet apply for the CMS/CMMI Transforming Maternal Health funding](#) that will support utilization of Midwives and Birth Centers. The letter of intent to apply is due August 8th, 2024.
2. Prefile and Co-sponsor passage of APRN Full practice authority for Certified Nurse Midwives. Iowa, Illinois, Arkansas, and Kansas have full practice authority in place for Certified Nurse Midwives today.
3. Prefile and Co-sponsor passage of legislation to support the build out and construction of licensed birth centers as their own facility type. Birth Centers are not surgical centers.
4. Use your creativity and relationships at the state and federal level to better support our team as we provide care for moms traveling from rural Missouri communities and under-served Kansas City neighborhoods. The Birth Center partnering with Rural Health Clinic or Community Health Center or Critical Access Hospitals could be replicated across Missouri. Please contact Kendra Wyatt at 816-210-8964 or email at kendra@newbirthcompany.com.

I look forward to hearing from you on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

(YOUR NAME)

(YOUR ADDRESS)