
From: Laura Waldroop <laura.waldroop@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 4:49 PM
To: Haley, Nikki
Subject: Please help our birth center

Governor Haley,

My name is Laura Waldroop. I am a client of Carolina Community Maternity Center in Fort Mill, SC and I am due with my third child THIS Saturday, Feb. 28th. Unfortunately, this is also the day that complicated and unnecessary regulations forced on SC birth centers by DHEC will cause the birth center to close its doors. I gave birth to my second child in 2012 at Carolina Community Maternity Center and was overwhelmed and amazed at how my views on childbirth transformed into something beautiful and positive. My first experience with childbirth was a medicated hospital birth and it was miserably uncomfortable, impersonal, expensive, and unnecessary (as I was a low risk expectant mother). Now I am expecting my third child on the last day of the month, and I am very upset that I may not have the birth center to deliver in this time. That comfortable and positive birthing experience I have been dreaming about during this pregnancy may not be mine after all. I believe that CCMC is the safest and most loving environment to meet my child for the first time.

Please read the following information from supporters of CCMC and consider both granting the requested grace period for CCMC and giving your support to pro-birth center legislation that will be introduced later.

"At the end of this week, CCMC will be forced to close its doors due to the recent withdrawal of their DHEC-mandated consulting OBGYN and there will be 88 vulnerable, pregnant women left without a care provider.

Yesterday's resignation of DHEC Director Nominee Eleanor Kitzman and the quick turnover of their Directors in the past few years has given me little faith in DHEC's ability to handle this matter. There IS something you can do! In 2012, NC Governor Bev Purdue and the Midwifery Joint Committee of NC gave 7 midwives a 75 day grace period when the supervising physician they were required by law to have suddenly made himself unavailable. We now find ourselves in a similar situation and are asking that you grant our midwives a 90 day reprieve so that they are not forced to abandon their current patients.

Many local OBGYN practices will not accept new patients into their care once they are past 28 weeks and many family doctors will not care for pregnant patients past the first trimester. The women who planned to give birth at CCMC who are already at or past 28 weeks are at risk of being left without a care provider or any sense of safety or security. Imagine if this was you/your daughter/wife/sister/friend. We are also expecting a birth center bill to be introduced to the State House very shortly, which we would love if you would support but without this 90-day reprieve, it will mean nothing to CCMC. Thank you for your time and please, do the right thing."

Governor Haley, the policies that DHEC is enforcing on our local birth center are harming the women in our community. Costs of using the center have risen in order that the midwives can comply with the new interpretations of the law and have a consulting physician available. This means affordability and

availability of the birth center for my low risk pregnancy have been seriously threatened. Please help us.

Laura Waldroop
111 Hunter Brooke Ln
Fort Mill, SC 29707
803-230-6090