



Sunrise Review: Request for Information from Interested Parties

LD 1827 “An Act to License Certified Professional Midwives to
Promote Greater Public Safety and Access”

**Department of Professional and Financial Regulation
Office of the Commissioner
June 25, 2007**

Sunrise Review Survey: Regulation of Certified Professional Midwives

Please return the completed survey to the Commissioner's Office by **July 25, 2007**. You may respond to any or all questions. The survey should be e-mailed to Doug Dunbar, Assistant to the Commissioner. The address is doug.dunbar@maine.gov. An electronic version of the survey is available by contacting the Commissioner's Office.

General Information

1. **Group or organization you represent:**

2. **Position on proposed legislation.** Does this group or organization support or oppose state regulation of certified professional midwives?

Evaluation Criteria (32 M.R.S.A. § 60-J)

1. **Data on group proposed for regulation.** Please provide a description of the professional or occupational group proposed for regulation, including:
 - (a) The number of individuals or business entities that would be subject to regulation, including the number of midwives who are not certified;

 - (b) The names and addresses of associations, organizations and other groups representing potential licensees; and

 - (c) An estimate of the number of potential licensees in each group.

2. **Specialized skill.** Please describe whether practice of midwifery requires such a specialized skill that the public is not qualified to select a competent individual without assurances that minimum qualifications have been met.

3. Threat to public health, safety, or welfare. Please describe:

- (a) The nature and extent of potential harm to the public, if any, if midwives, whether or not certified, are not regulated by the State; and
- (b) The extent to which there is a threat to the public's health, safety or welfare without state regulation (*Please provide evidence of the potential harm, including: a description of any complaints filed with state law enforcement authorities, courts, departmental agencies, other professional or occupational boards and professional and occupational associations that have been lodged against midwives in this State within the past 5 years*).

4. Voluntary and past regulatory efforts. Please provide a description of the voluntary efforts made by midwives to protect the public through self-regulation, private certifications, membership in professional or occupational associations or academic credentials and a statement of why these efforts are inadequate to protect the public.

5. Costs and benefits of regulation. Please describe the extent to which regulation of midwives will increase the cost of services provided by midwives and the overall cost-effectiveness and economic impact of the proposed regulation, including the indirect costs to consumers.

6. Service availability under regulation. Please describe the extent to which regulation of midwives would increase or decrease the availability of services to the public.

7. Existing laws and regulations. Please discuss the extent to which existing legal remedies are inadequate to prevent or redress the kinds of harm potentially resulting from non-regulation and whether regulation can be provided through an existing state agency or in conjunction with presently regulated health practitioners.

8. Method of regulation. Please describe why registration, certification, license to use the title, license to practice or another type of regulation is being proposed, why that regulatory alternative was chosen and whether the proposed method of regulation is appropriate.

- 9. Other states.** Please provide a list of other states that regulate midwives, the type of regulation, copies of other states' laws and available evidence from those states of the effect of regulation on midwives in terms of a before-and-after analysis.
- 10. Previous efforts to regulate.** Please provide the details of any previous efforts in this State to implement regulation of midwives.
- 11. Minimal competence.** Please describe whether the proposed requirements for regulation exceed the standards of minimal competence and what those standards are.
- 12. Financial analysis.** Please describe the method proposed to finance the proposed regulation and financial data pertaining to whether the proposed regulation can be reasonably financed by potential licensees through dedicated revenue mechanisms.
- 13. Mandated benefits.** Please describe whether the profession or occupation plans to apply for mandated benefits.

Date: _____, 2007

Completed by:

Name:

Title:

Mailing address:

Email address: