

Substitute for House Resolution No. 77.

A resolution to declare May 5, 2015, as International Midwives Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Midwives have been a part of the culture and tradition of Michigan pre-dating statehood and are still important to modern health care; and

Whereas, Midwives have an ancient heritage of practice in the world, even being referenced in the Bible during Israel's captivity in Egypt in Exodus chapter one; and

Whereas, Midwives provide a woman, baby, and family-centered childbirth opportunity that has recently grown in response to the choice of thousands of Michigan parents choosing to return to this both ancient-and-modern, practical, and accessible birthing option; and

Whereas, Midwives are dedicated to the care of pregnancy and birth and treat each woman's pregnancy according to the mother's unique and personal needs and desires; and

Whereas, Midwives provide the necessary supervision, care and advice to women during each pregnancy, labor and postpartum period; conduct deliveries on their own, care for the newborn into infancy, and offer childbirth education and counseling to women on health and diet needs, family relations and planning, and postpartum concerns such as nursing, hygiene, and recovery; and

Whereas, The World Health Organization, the International Confederation of Midwives, and the Midwives Alliance of North America have noted the impact midwifery care has on improving the infant mortality rate worldwide; and

Whereas, The goals of the Michigan Midwives Association and the Friends of Michigan Midwives include improving birth outcomes in the state of Michigan.; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare May 5, 2015, as International Midwives Day in the state of Michigan; and further be it

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be conveyed to members of the Michigan Midwives Association and the Friends of Michigan Midwives.