



**Committee:** House Health and Government Operations Committee

**Bill:** House Bill 351 - Health Occupations – Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives – Previous Cesarean Sections

**Hearing Date:** February 22, 2023

**Position:** Support

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The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) supports *House Bill 351 – Health Occupations – Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives- Previous Cesarean Sections*. ACNM recognizes that the licensed direct-entry midwife (LDEM) community is educated and certified in a different pathway from the one we represent. Our review indicates that provision of vaginal birth after Cesarean (VBAC) is part of their educational program.<sup>i</sup> Families who are making an informed choice about place of birth and qualified health care providers deserve support for that choice. When counseling and documentation of specific consent to attempt VBAC are provided, families are able to make an informed choice regarding place of birth, and we believe that this choice should be supported. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net) or (443) 926-3443.

<sup>i</sup>Citation: Midwifery Education Accreditation Council. 2014. Curriculum Checklist of Essential Competencies. <https://www.meacschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Curriculum-Checklist-of-Essential-Competencies-rev-2014.pdf>