



Members of the House Health and Human Services Committee,

My name is Jade Woodard and I am Executive Director with Illuminate Colorado, a statewide nonprofit working to strengthen families, organizations, and communities to prevent child maltreatment. I am submitting written testimony **to ask you for a 'yes' vote on SB24-047 Prevention of Substance Use Disorders to support Section 12 updates to the Perinatal Data Linkage Project.**

Since its inception in 2019, the Perinatal Data Linkage Project has informed coordinated prevention efforts that effectively advance policy and practice to promote healthy outcomes for parents and infants impacted by prenatal substance use. Illuminate Colorado supports SB24-047 updates to the Perinatal Data Linkage Project for two reasons:

- 1. The Perinatal Data Linkage Project identifies systems-level barriers and opportunities to promote improved outcomes for families impacted by substance use during pregnancy.** By promoting a common understanding of systems-level barriers and opportunities experienced by families, the Perinatal Data Linkage Project supports collaboration across state agencies and nonprofits to support effective, coordinated efforts that improve family outcomes. By updating the Perinatal Linkage to ensure access to targeted systems-level data, SB24-047 promotes continued opportunities for cross-agency and sector collaboration to strengthen families impacted by substance use across Colorado.
- 2. The Perinatal Data Linkage Projects advances informed public investment and objective, data-driven decision making.** There is a continued need for objective scientific research to identify data-driven interventions that improve screening and treatment of pregnant and parenting people with substance use disorders and improve outcomes for both parents and infants. By making updates to the Perinatal Data Linkage, SB24-047 will enhance future opportunities for the Data Linkage Project to engage in objective research that informs data-driven decision making and public investment in effective prevention efforts.

In closing, by updating the Perinatal Data Linkage Project to expand access to targeted state-level systems data, Colorado can continue to engage in collaborative prevention efforts and make data-driven decisions and informed public investments that improve outcomes for families impacted by prenatal substance use. **We urge you to support Section 14 updates to the Perinatal Data Linkage Project by voting 'yes' on SB24-047.**

Sincerely,
Jade Woodard, Executive Director
Illuminate Colorado
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