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Senator Melissa Wiklund
Chair, Health and Human Services Committee
2105 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

3/31/23

Dear Chair Wiklund,

On behalf of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), I write in support and gratitude for supporting the addition of the provisions of SF 1704 for in vitro fertilization (IVF) and fertility preservation insurance coverage in your HHS omnibus finance bill for large fully insured groups.

ASRM is a multidisciplinary organization of nearly 8,000 professionals dedicated to the advancement of the art, science, and practice of reproductive medicine. Distinguished members of ASRM include obstetricians and gynecologists, urologists, reproductive endocrinologists, embryologists, mental health professionals and others.

One in eight individuals or couples have trouble getting pregnant or sustaining a pregnancy. Infertility cuts across socioeconomic levels, racial identities, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, and religious affiliations. Many medical conditions can impact fertility, which is why ASRM and other medical organizations recognize infertility as a disease. As such, infertility, like

other diseases, should be covered by health insurance so that Minnesotans can access the care they need to build their families.

Adding the provisions of SF 1704 to the larger omnibus bill addresses the inequities many face when building their families. Because medical intervention using donor gametes is necessary for same-sex couples to have a baby, lack of insurance coverage creates an unfair financial burden on this population. As well, analyses by both the CDC and Pew Research Center reveal startling racial disparities in fertility treatment. SF 1704 will improve access to care and outcomes for underserved Minnesotan communities.

Thank you for using your leadership on behalf of Minnesotans trying to build their families.

For more information, feel free to contact me or Sean Tipton, ASRM's Chief Advocacy and Policy officer at Stipton@asrm.org or 202-421-5112.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Thomas, MD
President
American Society of Reproductive Medicine