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Senator Melissa Wiklund, Chair  
Committee on Health and Human Services  
2107 Minnesota Senate Bldg.  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

3/18/24

RE: Support MN Building Families Act – SF 1704 (Maye Quade)

Dear Chair Wiklund and Committee Members:

On behalf of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), I am writing to express our strong support for The Minnesota Building Families Act and to urge the Committee on Health and Human Services and to include this important provision in the Committee’s omnibus finance bill.

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.

The Minnesota Building Families Act updates access to critical reproductive healthcare. It improves care by requiring coverage for infertility and fertility preservation for men and women in private and public health plans. It covers in vitro fertilization (IVF) and other infertility treatments, as well as fertility preservation for cancer patients and others at risk of medically-induced infertility. The bill reflects the recently updated medical definition of infertility, which includes the LGBTQ+ community.

Without health insurance for fertility treatments, including IVF, most Minnesotans cannot access this medically necessary care.

According to the CDC, one in seven women have trouble getting pregnant or sustaining a pregnancy. Infertility cuts across socioeconomic levels, and all racial, ethnic and religious lines. The AMA, ACOG and WHO identify infertility as a disease. As such, infertility should be covered by health insurance like other diseases. Without insurance coverage, people are forced to shoulder the entire cost of fertility services themselves, adding financial stress and debt on top of the already considerable emotional toll of infertility. Many can’t afford to start treatments. Others stop prematurely when their savings run out. It’s time Minnesota joins the growing list of 21 states that require fertility coverage. As proven in these states, insurance covering IVF decreases the chance of multiple births, and lowering multiple births decreases overall health care costs and results in healthier babies and healthier moms.

For more information, feel free to contact me or Sean Tipton, Chief Advocacy and Policy Officer at [Stipton@asrm.org](mailto:Stipton@asrm.org) or 202-421-5112.



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Sincerely,

Paula Amato, MD  
President  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine