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March 6, 2023

Chair Matt Klein  
Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee  
2105 Minnesota Senate Bldg.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: SF 1704 – Support**

Dear Chair Klein and Members of the Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee:

On behalf of the Alliance for Fertility Preservation (AFP), I am writing to express our strong support for SF 1704 and urge the Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee to advance this bill out of Committee.

The AFP is a national 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to expanding fertility preservation information and resources for patients facing potential infertility caused by cancer treatments. According to the National Cancer Institute, approximately 87,050 Americans between the ages of 0-39 are diagnosed with cancer each year. Due to improvements in treatment, about 85% these patients will survive. Some cancer treatments, however, can cause iatrogenic infertility when chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery damage reproductive cells (eggs and sperm), reproductive organs, and/or endocrine functioning; they can also adversely impact the ability to carry a pregnancy.

SF 1704 updates the state's insurance law to require coverage for fertility and reproductive endocrinology services for men and women. This update will significantly improve access to the standard of care for patients with infertility and those diagnosed with cancer or other conditions that may cause infertility.

Fertility preservation has been considered part of the standard of care for age-eligible cancer patients for more than fifteen years, and is recognized by all the relevant medical associations, including the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), and the American Medical Association (AMA). Currently, sperm, egg, embryo, and ovarian tissue banking are viewed as standard fertility preservation procedures.

Patients facing iatrogenic infertility have recognized, effective options for preserving fertility, but the high cost is often a barrier. Expenses can range from several hundred dollars for sperm banking to approximately \$15,000 for egg banking. Without insurance coverage, these standard treatments are unaffordable for many patients. Minnesota should join the growing list of states that require fertility preservation coverage.

We respectfully ask that you advance SF 1704 and help ensure it has a pathway to law on behalf of all Minnesotans struggling to build their families.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Reinecke". The signature is fluid and extends to the right with a long, sweeping tail.

Joyce Reinecke,  
Executive Director