

January 7, 2023

Sen. Jen McEwen 95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3217 St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Sen. McEwen,

As the leadership of the Minnesota Section of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), we are writing in strong support of SF1 the Protect Reproductive Options – ACT (PRO-ACT).

ACOG recognizes that access to comprehensive reproductive health care services is essential to women's health and well-being. Women deserve access to ALL health care services including, but not limited to, options for the appropriate management of miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, infertility, pregnancy termination, sterilization, and contraceptive methods. These basic health care needs are in the best interest of women, their families, and their communities.

Where and when reproductive health care services are prohibited, health care providers are put in the difficult position of having to withhold needed care until patients' conditions deteriorate to a point at which care is permitted. Ultimately, the health of women and quality of the patient–physician relationship suffer.

All women should have access to scientifically based health care. Prohibitions on this care that are based on religious or other non-scientific grounds can jeopardize women's health and safety. We thank you for authoring the PRO-ACT and look forward to ensuring that the reproductive health care needs of Minnesota women are performed based on their autonomous decisions.

Sincerely,

Siri Fiebiger, MD MPH Chair, MN ACOG Elizabeth Slagle, MD Chair, ACOG Legislative Committee