



March 19, 2024

The Honorable Melissa Wiklund
Chair, Health and Human Services Committee
2107 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Chair Wiklund and Committee Members:

The Minnesota Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) supports SF 3967, ensuring insurance coverage of abortion and related care.

As OB-GYNs deeply invested in women's health, we believe that reproductive healthcare is a fundamental right, and access to safe and legal abortion is an integral component of comprehensive reproductive care. SF 3967 presents an opportunity to address the financial barriers that many individuals face when seeking abortion services and contributes to a healthcare system that values and supports women's reproductive autonomy.

SF 3967 aligns with the principles of reproductive justice, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of economic status, have the ability to exercise their right to make personal decisions about their reproductive lives. By providing insurance coverage for abortion services, we can contribute to a more equitable and compassionate healthcare system.

Research consistently demonstrates that restricting access to abortion services can lead to adverse health outcomes for women, including increased maternal morbidity and mortality. It is essential that we prioritize policies that promote the health and well-being of our community members, and this bill represents a critical step in that direction.

Every patient should have the right to decide to continue or to terminate a pregnancy without having to make that decision based on insurance coverage.

We urge you to support this legislation that will contribute to a healthcare system that values the right of every individual to make decisions about their reproductive health without financial barriers.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Slagle, MD
MN ACOG Chair