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RE: Support of SF3511

March 20, 2024

To Chair Melissa Wiklund and members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

Gender Justice is a legal and policy advocacy organization dedicated to advancing gender equity through the law. We believe that all people deserve affordable access to the healthcare they need, and we work to advance reproductive justice for all people, including the right to have and raise a child.

We are writing in support of SF3511 (Mann). The costs of copays and cost-sharing around pregnancy care, in particular childbirth and postnatal care, are unpredictable and daunting for many insured people. People covered by large employer plans average out-of-pocket costs from \$2,600-\$3,200 for childbirth depending on the type of delivery¹, and these costs can be much higher depending on the plan. The timing of plan year and deductible, delivery complications and postnatal care needs for baby and birthing parent can all add to the cost and stress.

This is particularly stressful for parents whose infants need emergency care. It is in the clear best interest of parents and babies to keep families together when an infant does need to be transferred to another facility for specialty care.

Ensuring that this care is covered by insurance will help protect families in these critical moments.

Please support SF3511,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megan Peterson".

Megan Peterson
Executive Director, Gender Justice

¹ [Kaiser Family Foundation](#)