March 5, 2026

Re: SF1961

Dear Chair Klein and Members of the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committe

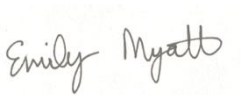
The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society. We support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. On behalf of ACS CAN, I am writing to express our support for the Minnesota Building Families Act (SF1961).

The Minnesota Building Families Act provides access to critical fertility health care by requiring coverage for infertility treatment and fertility preservation for Minnesotans covered by state-regulated plans. The bill 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. Eighty-thousand adults between the ages of 20-30 are diagnosed with cancer each year. Some cancer treatments can cause infertility, and as a result, individuals with cancer may choose to preserve their fertility prior to treatment. However, lack of insurance coverage is one of the largest barriers to starting a biological family.

I'll end with the words of Haley Erickson, a Fridley resident and breast cancer survivor. "I was 29 years old when I was diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer. My world was turned upside down, and I was forced to make so many life-altering decisions in a short amount of time. One of those decisions included fertility preservation. I was completely unaware of the cost, whether or not my insurance would cover it, and if I even had time to successfully complete the process. **If my insurance would have covered fertility preservation at the time of my diagnosis, that would have removed one of my most significant barriers to accessing fertility preservation. Instead of worrying about how I was going to come up with the money fast enough to both preserve my fertility and survive cancer, I could've put all my focus on surviving. People diagnosed with cancer shouldn't have to choose between parenthood and survival."**

Please support Minnesota's cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers by voting yes on SF1961.

Sincerely,



Emily Myatt
Minnesota Government Relations Director
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network