GENDER JUSTICE

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To Chair Klein and members of the Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee:

Gender Justice is the organizational home of UnRestrict Minnesota, an expansive, diverse, and inclusive coalition for reproductive rights, health, and justice. UnRestrict Minnesota is a multi-racial coalition of more than 30 health care clinics, abortion funds, practical support groups, LGBTQ advocacy groups, faith communities, organizers, lawyers, doulas, and many more.

We are writing in support of Minnesota Building Families Act, SF 1961, requiring insurance coverage for infertility treatment. Our coalition supports access to full-spectrum reproductive healthcare, including support for people experiencing fertility issues. The bill would help ensure more equitable access to fertility treatments across income level, zip code, relationship status, and reason for infertility.

This bill reflects the changing definition of infertility, which is now inclusive of LGBTQ families. When heterosexual couples verbally attest to trying to conceive for six months, they often have access to insurance coverage that is not available for many LGBTQ families. This legislation protects against exclusionary and discriminatory insurance coverage for infertility. People who want to have children and build their families should have access to the care they need.

This legislation would increase reproductive healthcare access and equity throughout our state. Minnesota should join the other 21 states that provide this care[1]. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Megan Peterson

Megan Peterson
Executive Director, Gender Justice

[1] https://resolve.org/learn/financial-resources-for-family-building/insurance-coverage/insurance-coverage-by-state/