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Dear Chair Murphy and Vice Chairs King and Collins,

On behalf of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), I am writing to express strong opposition to <u>H 5399</u>, which would curtail the reproductive rights of the residents of South Carolina and leave some facing lifethreatening risk.

ASRM is a multidisciplinary organization of nearly 8,000 professionals dedicated to the advancement of the art, science, and practice of reproductive medicine. Distinguished members of ASRM include obstetricians and gynecologists, urologists, reproductive endocrinologists, embryologists, mental health professionals and others.

South Carolina already has some of the most stringent abortion laws in the nation. By allowing the government to intervene in the relationship between a patient and physician, passing H 5399 would only make access to critical reproductive care more difficult and, indeed, dangerous.

On behalf of ASRM, I strongly urge you to oppose the passage of H 5399 to protect the health and lives of South Carolinian families.

For more information, feel free to contact me or Sean Tipton, our Chief Advocacy and Policy officer at Stipton@asrm.org or 202-421-5112.

Sincerely,

Marcelle I. Cedars, MD

President

American Society for Reproductive Medicine