

Impacting Reproductive Care Worldwide

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Senate Committee on Business, Labor and Economic Affairs Montana Senate

P.O. Box 200500

Helena, MT 59620-0500

3/23/23

Dear Chair Small and Vice Chairs Noland and Curdy,

On behalf of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), I write in strong support of <u>SB 516</u>.

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.

As the bill recognizes, "young Montanans who are diagnosed with cancer often learn, shortly before they are to begin the medical treatment needed to save their lives, that the treatment may result in infertility, leaving them only a small window of time in which to decide whether to undergo medically necessary efforts to preserve their ability to have biological families.". Cancer- and consequent infertility- cuts across socioeconomic levels, racial identities, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, and religious affiliations. As such, fertility preservation and related services should be covered by health insurance so that Montanans can access the care they need should they choose to build their families post-cancer treatment. Just as breast reconstruction and wigs are often required for cancer patients to fully recover, so should fertility preservation be available to these patients.

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

Sincerely,

Andaka my



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President American Society of Reproductive Medicine