

Submitter: Nick Haskins
On Behalf Of: Jenna Harbick
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB1530

Dear Committee Member,

As an Oregon resident who cares deeply about those struggling to build their family in our state, I strongly urge you to pass the infertility insurance bill before you, which will help Oregonians build their families when faced with cancer or other conditions that can cause infertility. Oregon families need your support now. I need your support, along with the 1 in 8 couples in our state living with the disease of infertility and the thousands of Oregonians diagnosed with cancer during their reproductive years.

I have been diagnosed with secondary infertility and recurrent pregnancy loss. I have lost four pregnancies between June 2019 and March 2021; each one has been a devastating blow to our family. During my most recent pregnancy, even acquiring much needed progesterone medication was incredibly difficult because of insurance limitations. I was already pregnant, and this was prescribed by my doctor as an attempt to sustain the pregnancy and yet my insurance denied the claim because it fell under the ART category. I continued to pay out of pocket and later miscarried. I have seen two Reproductive Endocrinologists in Portland from two different fertility clinics, and both have suggested that I pursue treatments that are not covered by insurance in order to complete our family. My husband and I are truly at a crossroads now as we attempt to choose between financial stability and giving our son a sibling. It is time for Oregon to update its insurance laws to include coverage for the standard of care for patients with infertility and those diagnosed with cancer or other conditions that may cause infertility. By passing this pro-family legislation, Oregon will join 19 other states across the nation that help hardworking families get access to medically necessary treatments while only minimally impacting insurance premiums, if at all. States with IVF insurance have lower rates of multiple births than states without IVF coverage, and lowering multiple births decreases overall health care costs and results in healthier babies and healthier moms.

Please support Oregon families by moving this pro-family bill forward. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Jenna Harbick