

Submitter: Mariko Kershaw
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB491

Dear Committee Member,

As an Oregon resident who is 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. 1 in 8 couples in our state live with the disease of infertility and thousands of Oregonians are diagnosed with cancer during their reproductive years.

Infertility has been a heavy burden for me and my husband. Our struggle has taken a toll on my body, both physically and mentally. Neither of our insurance covers infertility treatment so our out-of-pocket expenses are adding up. The cost of treatment is simply not affordable and is dashing our hopes of being parents.

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 20 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,
Mariko Kershaw