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April 3, 2025

The Honorable Deb Patterson
Senate Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Senate
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for SB 535

Dear Chair Patterson and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Alliance for Fertility Preservation (AFP), I am writing to express our strong support for SB 535, and to urge the Senate Committee on Health Care to advance this bill. The AFP is a national 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to expanding fertility preservation information and resources for patients facing potential infertility caused by cancer treatments. According to National Cancer Institute data, approximately 130,000 Americans between the ages of 0-44 are diagnosed with cancer each year. Due to improvements in treatment, about 85% of these patients will survive. Some cancer treatments, however, can cause iatrogenic infertility when chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery damage reproductive cells (eggs and sperm), reproductive organs, and/or endocrine functioning.

SB 535 improves care by requiring health insurers to cover fertility preservation for cancer patients at risk of medically-induced infertility, as well as providing in vitro fertilization (IVF) and other infertility treatments they may need in survivorship to build their families. Fertility preservation has been considered part of the standard of care for age-eligible cancer patients for more than fifteen years, and is recognized by all the relevant medical associations, including the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM). Currently, sperm, egg, embryo, and ovarian tissue banking are viewed as standard fertility preservation procedures.

Patients facing iatrogenic infertility have recognized, effective options for preserving fertility, but the high cost is often a barrier. Expenses can range from several hundred dollars for sperm banking to approximately \$15,000 for egg banking. Without insurance coverage, these standard treatments are unaffordable for many patients who must then risk sterility or infertility as a side effect of their life-saving treatments.

We respectfully ask that you pass SB 535 and help give young adult cancer patients in Oregon hope by ensuring access to treatments that will protect their ability to have biological children in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joyce Reinecke".

Joyce Reinecke
Executive Director