

April 4, 2025

Senate Committee on Health Care Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

## **RE: Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 535**

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon (ACLU of Oregon). The ACLU of Oregon is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing civil rights and civil liberties, with more than 44,000 members and donor supporters statewide.

## We strongly support Senate Bill 535, which would ensure insurance coverage for family-building services, including intrauterine insemination (IUI) and in-vitro fertilization (IVF), and medically-indicated sperm, egg and embryo freezing.

The ACLU works to ensure that every person has access to the full spectrum of reproductive health care and can make the best decisions for themselves and their family.

Fertility care is essential reproductive healthcare that affects a wide range of Oregonians, such as those diagnosed with infertility, cancer patients at risk of sterility or infertility due to treatment, or LGBTQIA2s+ couples seeking to build families. Senate Bill 535 ensures Oregonians have access to fertility care and that families have options to consider.

Infertility disproportionately affects BIPOC and marginalized populations<sup>1</sup>. The lack of insurance coverage and high cost of fertility care create significant barriers for individuals seeking to start or grow their families. It is essential that Oregon, as a leader in reproductive health care, expands access and affordability to include fertility services and address the disproportionate impact on our most vulnerable community members.

Senate Bill 535 will ensure coverage for essential and comprehensive reproductive fertility health care services in Oregon. The ACLU of Oregon strongly urges your support for Senate Bill 535 and asks you to pass it out of committee.

Respectfully,

Mariana Garcia Medina, Senior Policy Associate

mgarciamedina@aclu-or.org

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Infertility and Black, Indigenous & People of Color." American Psychological Association, American Psychological Association