

Submitter: Michael Liu Michael Liu
On Behalf Of: FORCE
Committee: House Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4155

My name is Michael Liu, and I am a volunteer with FORCE (Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered). FORCE is a leading nonprofit for people at risk for hereditary cancer; and the majority of our constituents an inherited genetic mutation, like a BRCA mutation or Lynch Syndrome, that significantly increases their risk of cancers, including breast, colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, prostate, pancreatic and gastric cancers.

I strongly support HB 4155, which ensures coverage of fertility services for those facing a medical diagnosis that may impair their fertility.

Many people living with inherited genetic mutations that increase their risk of cancer undergo preventative surgery to remove their ovaries and fallopian tubes. If such preventative procedures are performed, fertility preservation and treatments are the only way to protect their future reproductive capability.

A large number of individuals with hereditary cancer genetic mutations learn about their mutation as young adults before they have built a family. We should not force young people to choose between someday having a family, or undergoing potentially life-saving preventative treatment that reduces their chance of a painful and long cancer journey down the road. Without insurance coverage, many individuals cannot afford fertility services, curtailing their dream of having biological children.

Thank you all for your time and consideration,

Michael Liu
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