



SENATE BILL 911 - FERTILITY PRESERVATION

This legislation would ensure that no Oregonian has to make the choice between preserving their fertility and saving their own life.

A cancer diagnosis should not end the dream of a family

Some patients face medical conditions which require treatments that can be severe and have unintended consequences on the body. These harsh treatments aim to aggressively treat a disease but can also threaten a patient's ability to have children. Receiving a cancer diagnosis is incredibly **traumatic**. Informing a patient that they may also lose their fertility as a result of treatment can be **devastating**. Patients shouldn't have to choose between being treated for their disease and preserving their ability to have a family.

Six states have successfully passed legislation to require insurance coverage to preserve fertility (Connecticut, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Illinois). Requiring insurance policies to include coverage for fertility preservation when treatment can cause infertility would provide many young Oregonians with a chance to have a family despite a terrifying medical diagnosis.

Providing all Oregonians with access to fertility preservation when treatment can cause infertility

This legislation requires all insurance plans in Oregon to cover fertility preservation for treatments that risk infertility. It would provide all Oregonians with access to fertility preservation services when they are facing a diagnosis and treatment plan that threatens their ability to have children. The cost to preserve fertility can reach upwards of \$10,000. Due to the significant costs of such procedures, patients sometimes choose to delay life-saving cancer procedures in order to afford fertility preservation services.

Other treatment caused health issues are already covered

Insurers already cover treatments for other treatment-caused health issues. For example, anti-nausea medication to treat nausea caused by chemotherapy is already covered. Fertility preservation from possible infertility caused by the same treatment should be a covered service as well.

Minimal cost, big impact

As cancer survivorship continues to improve, patients are facing better odds of living longer lives after their initial diagnosis. Yet, sometimes the treatments that save lives threatens a person's ability to have biological children, which for some patients is an important part of the future life they are fighting to keep. We estimate that about **150 Oregonians** a year will receive diagnoses and treatments plans that will require them to need this service.

RI, CT, DE, NJ, MD, IL

*States that have passed
fertility preservation
legislation*

150

*The number of
Oregonians who may
need fertility
preservation*

OHSU constantly strives to improve access to high-quality healthcare for Oregonians across the state. Cancer knows no geopolitical boundaries, but this legislation will better ensure no one loses their ability to have a family due to cost.

For more information, please contact Julie Hanna at hannaju@ohsu.edu