



March 17, 2021

Chair Patterson, Members of the Senate Health Committee,

Thank you for allowing us to offer comments on SB 168. We appreciate and sympathize with the advocates of the bill, but we must raise concerns over the scope and the underlying cost of SB 168. With the universal call to address the rising cost of healthcare in Oregon we must object to such a significant benefit mandate at this time. While we have not completed our analysis specific to Oregon, we believe based on national studies that adding a fertility coverage mandate would mean an addition of more than \$4 per member per month at the minimum.

As has been stated by AHIP and other health plans, a benefit such as fertility coverage is above and beyond the agreed upon essential health benefits. For that reason, we would expect the state to follow federal law and assume the additional cost of such a mandate.

If the committee would like to move forward with SB 168 understanding the federal laws, we will be happy to provide a more specific cost analysis when this bill is heard in the Ways and Means Committee so the state can factor this additional expense in the budget.

Sincerely,
Vince Porter
Director of Government Affairs