



February 27, 2023

The Honorable Deb Patterson, Chair
Senate Committee on Health Care
900 Court St. NE, Room HR B
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Patterson and Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care,

The Oregon Society for Medical Oncology (OSMO) and the Association for Clinical Oncology (ASCO) are pleased to support SB 491, which would provide coverage of fertility preservation services for Oregon patients with cancer. We encourage the committee to pass the bill forward for a vote on the House floor.

OSMO is a professional organization whose mission is to facilitate improvements for Oregon physician specialties in both hematology and oncology. OSMO members are a community of hematologists, oncologists, and other physicians who specialize in cancer care. ASCO is a national organization representing physicians who care for people with cancer. With nearly 45,000 members, our core mission is to ensure that cancer patients have meaningful access to high-quality, equitable cancer care.

OSMO and ASCO believe that as part of education and informed consent before cancer therapy, health care providers should address the possibility of infertility with both male and female patients treated during their reproductive years. Providers should also be prepared to discuss fertility preservation options and/or refer all potential patients to appropriate reproductive specialists. As such, OSMO and ASCO advocate for coverage of procedures consistent with ASCO guidelines for a covered patient of reproductive age who has been diagnosed with cancer but has not started cancer treatment (including chemotherapy, biotherapy or radiation therapy treatment) in accordance with [guidelines](#) developed by our affiliate organization, the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

We encourage providers to advise patients regarding potential threats to fertility as early as possible in the treatment process to allow for the widest array of options for fertility preservation. OSMO and ASCO strongly support SB 491 and encourage you to pass this bill as a first step to ensure coverage for fertility preservation services for patients with cancer. If you have questions or would like assistance on any issue involving the care of individuals with cancer, please contact Aaron Segel at ASCO at aaron.segel@asco.org.

Sincerely,

Mujahad Rizvi, MD, FACP, MPH
President
Oregon Society of Medical Oncology

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori J. Pierce".

Lori J. Pierce, MD, FASTRO, FASCO
Chair of the Board
Association for Clinical Oncology