

Submitter: Beth Finnon
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB535

I am writing in support of SB 535 to require health insurance coverage for fertility services. My daughter is the 1 in 6 women who have struggled with fertility disease. She and her husband had a dream to create a family to raise and nurture. That dream is gone as is my dream of being a grandmother. Our entire family still grieves the loss of those dreams. My daughter and son-in-law saved and borrowed to be able to pay for the outrageously expensive out-of-pocket costs associated with their 5 failed IVF procedures. The requirement to pay in cash forced them to delay medical intervention for their fertility treatments. Perhaps if they had not been forced to take the time to raise funds, one of the treatments could have been successful. I cannot think of a valid reason for excluding fertility treatment on the list of essential health care services. Everyone deserves to be parents and have a family regardless of how much is in their bank accounts. Health care services in Oregon must be expanded to acknowledge that fertility services are vitally important.