INTRODUCTION

1. “Thank you for meeting with us today. We are volunteers for RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine.”
   Introduce yourselves: name and where you are from.
2. Build a bridge: Say you have looked at this lawmaker’s background and s/he has done some very pro-family things (name some). WE are pro-family, too!
3. You have 6 pro-family issues to talk about today.
   a) Support access to infertility medical treatments
   b) Help injured veterans have a family
   c) Help more families be able to adopt
      a. Adoption Tax Credit Refundability Act
      b. Every Child Deserves a Family Act
   d) Support PCOS Awareness Month
   e) Support increased funding for Medical Research at NIH

Access to Infertility Treatment and Care Act (S.1461/HR 2803)

1. Lack of insurance coverage for infertility medical treatments is a major barrier to family building for Americans today.
2. This bill will provide those who receive their healthcare through government-sponsored health plans, including TRICARE, the VA, the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program and others, to have coverage for infertility services.
3. The bill also covers the private insurance market and makes infertility medical treatments covered just like any other treatments for a disease.
4. Provides access to vital fertility preservation services for those, like cancer patients, who are at risk of infertility due to medical treatments such as chemotherapy and surgery.

Adoption Tax Credit Refundability Act (S.1652/HR 2965)

1. The Adoption Tax Credit (ATC) advances the important public goal of encouraging adoptions, especially of children with special needs. That is why Congress has supported the bipartisan ATC since 1997.
2. The ATC needs to be made refundable, so that low-to moderate-income families can afford to adopt a child.
**Women Veterans & Families Health Services Act (S 319/HR 955)**

1. In September 2016, Congress authorized funds through the Mil-Con-VA Appropriations bill for the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide adoption assistance and IVF medical treatments to Veterans with a service-connected injury or illness that has caused infertility. These new benefits are being offered and we know of Veterans that are now receiving care. We thank you for these family building and life-changing benefits for our injured Veterans! Congress again authorized funding for the VA to continue these benefits through September 2020. We are thrilled that our country is providing access to this necessary medical care which helps our Veterans build their families. Thank you!

2. However, our work is not done. Continuity of this benefit and the ability of injured veterans to access it is critical. It requires that this benefit be made permanent. The appropriations process does not allow for injured veterans to rely on the benefit being available.

3. The best way to administer these benefits is by passing S 319/HR 955, the Women Veterans and Families Health Services Act. This bill provides the VA with the permanency to provide this benefit and eliminates unfair restrictions on those eligible for the benefit at both the VA and under TRICARE.

4. The VA supports permanent access to IVF for wounded veterans, as does many veteran service organizations.

**Every Child Deserves a Family Act (S.1791/HR 3114)**

1. Bans discrimination against foster and adoptive parents, families or origin and foster youth based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status and religion.

2. Will improve services to the 20% of foster youth who identify as LGBTQ.

3. This federal bill when passed will overturn 9 state laws allowing discrimination for adoptions.

**PCOS Awareness Month Resolution, (S. Res 317/H. Res 146)**

1. A Resolution to designate September as PCOS Awareness Month.

2. By passing this Resolution, PCOS will have its own health observance and help spread awareness about PCOS which impacts 5 to 10 million women and girls in the U.S. and is a leading cause of infertility.

3. PCOS is a life-long health condition for women and raising awareness will help with earlier diagnosis, more research, and greater access to care.

**Medical Research Funding**

1. We support sustained support for the NIH, and specifically the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), where most of the research related to reproductive health and infertility is supported.

2. We request a funding level of $1.6 billion for FY21 for NICHD, particularly funding for research related to reproductive disorders such as infertility, PCOS and Endometriosis.
**Disease of Infertility**

1. Millions of American men and women who want to have children can't. 1 in 8 couples have trouble conceiving or carrying a pregnancy to term.
2. Having children is fundamental; it's part of one's identity. Being unable to have a child affects people physically, financially, and emotionally.
3. Let me tell you about infertility in our state:
   
   Number of infertile constituents ________________
   
   Infertility is excluded from insurance coverage in most states.
4. **OPTIONAL:** Share your story.

**MAKE “THE ASK”:** Can we count on you as follows?

- To co-sponsor the Access to Infertility Treatment and Care Act
- To co-sponsor the Adoption Tax Credit Refundability Act
- To co-sponsor the Women Veterans and Families Health Services Act of 2019
- To co-sponsor Every Child Deserves a Family Act
- To co-sponsor the PCOS Awareness Month Resolution
- To support increased funding for NIH and NICHD

**THANK YOU:**

- Make sure to thank the staffer/member of Congress for taking the time to meet with you!
- Ask them for a good contact email/number to follow up with them in a few weeks!

*RESOLVE Leave-Behind/Infographic will be sent to the offices prior to your meetings.*