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January 26, 2021

The Honorable Delores Kelley
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Maryland General Assembly
Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support for SB 215

Dear Senator Kelley:

On behalf of RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, I am writing to express our strong support for Senate Bill 215, an Act concerning Maryland Department of Health – Birth Registration – Gestational Carriers.

SB 215 codifies the birth certificate process in cases involving gestational carrier births. Establishing a clear and simplified administrative process benefits all parties involved, including the Department of Health, the parents, and especially the children, whose privacy would also be better protected.

RESOLVE represents the millions of women and men in the U.S. with the disease of infertility and all those struggling to build a family. One in eight individuals or couples have trouble getting pregnant or sustaining a pregnancy. Infertility cuts across socioeconomic levels, and all racial, ethnic and religious lines. RESOLVE helps people with infertility pursue medical treatment, adoption, third party reproduction, and all other family building options. Maryland has served as a leader in this field and we view this bill as an extension of that leadership.

We respectfully ask that you favorably pass SB 215 out of Committee and help ensure it has a pathway to law on behalf of all Marylanders struggling to build their families. We are happy to provide you additional information on this issue as RESOLVE has been providing support, information, and advocacy for the infertility community since 1974. I can be reached at bcollura@resolve.org and our website is www.resolve.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Collura". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal tail on the final letter.

Barbara L. Collura
President/CEO