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November 3, 2021

Joint Committee on Financial Services
Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133

RE: S.640/H.1116 - SUPPORT

Dear Senate Chair Crighton, House Chair Murphy, and members of the committee,

On behalf of RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, I am writing to express our strong support for S.640/H.1116, an *Act Relative to Preserving Fertility*. This legislation provides insurance coverage for fertility preservation for those facing a medical diagnosis or treatment that can impair their fertility. Individuals and couples dealing with serious illness, including cancer, want to know they will be able to pursue their dream of parenthood in the future.

Patients with cancer are not only surviving their disease but living long and productive lives. The vast majority of survivors want and hope for a family someday. The good news is they are being informed of fertility preservation procedures that allow them to act before starting their treatment. Sadly, they are also told this treatment is not covered by their health insurance and they must pay out-of-pocket— and very quickly -- in order to preserve their fertility and still follow their treatment protocol. Because of this barrier to access to care, patients are choosing less effective treatments for their cancer in order to save their fertility. This leads to disastrous, and costly, results.

There is a simple solution that saves lives, allows patients to follow their treatment protocol, and gives them the hope and promise of a family: provide health insurance for fertility preservation procedures.

We respectfully ask that you pass S.640/H.1116 out of Committee and demonstrate your commitment to Massachusetts families.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Collura
President/CEO