



April 10, 2025

Representative Alyssa Black, Chair House Committee on Health Care Vermont State House 115 State Street, Room 42 Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Chair Black and Members of the House Committee on Health care,

The Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society (NNECOS) and the Association for Clinical Oncology (ASCO) strongly support **H. 302**, which would provide coverage of fertility preservation services for Vermont patients with cancer. We encourage the committee to pass the bill forward for a vote on the House floor.

NNECOS is a professional organization whose mission is to promote the highest quality care for patients with cancer and blood disorders in northern New England. NNECOS members are a community of hematologists, oncologists, and other physicians and allied health professionals who specialize in cancer care. ASCO is an organization representing physicians who care for people with cancer. With over 50,000 members, our core mission is to ensure that cancer patients have meaningful access to high quality cancer care.

NNECOS 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, NNECOS and ASCO advocate for coverage of embryo, oocyte and sperm cryopreservation procedures for an insured 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 <u>guidelines</u> 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. If you have questions or would like assistance on any issue involving the care of individuals with cancer, please contact Lori Aubrey at NNECOS at laubrey@nnecos.org or Sarah Lanford at ASCO at Sarah.Lanford@asco.org.

Sincerely,

Sheila Pascual, MD President

Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society

Eric P. Winer, MD, FASCO

Chair of the Board
Association for Clinical Oncology