

Support HB 1624 to Protect Parenthood After Cancer

Give young adult Hawaiian cancer patients hope by providing access to treatments that will protect their ability to have biological children in the future.



The National Cancer Institute estimates

334

Adolescent and Young Adult Hawaiians between the ages of 15-39 will be diagnosed with cancer this year.



The Need

Some cancer treatments can directly or indirectly cause medically-induced infertility.

Chemotherapy, radiation and surgery can damage gametes (eggs and sperm), reproductive organs, and/or endocrine functioning; they may also impact the ability to carry a pregnancy.

Because the damage is generally caused by treatments and not the disease, it can affect patients with many types of cancer.

Infertility is not merely a medical complication; it permanently affects reproduction and parenthood – fundamental life functions worthy of the highest levels of protection.

The Challenge

Patients facing infertility have recognized, effective options for preserving fertility, but the high cost is often a barrier.

Expenses can range from several hundred dollars for sperm banking to approximately \$15,000 for egg banking.

Without insurance coverage, these standard treatments are unaffordable for many patients.

Patients often have a short window of time to obtain the resources necessary to preserve fertility before starting potentially-sterilizing cancer treatment.

The Solution

HB 1624 by Representative Chris Todd

Requires individual and group health insurance policies to cover fertility preservation services for a patient who will receive a medically necessary treatment, including surgery, chemotherapy or radiation that may directly or indirectly cause impaired fertility.

Fertility preservation services must be standard procedures consistent with professional guidelines established by the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

Hawaii State Audit Report 23-11 found that “it is unlikely that premiums would increase beyond a minimal amount” since such a limited number would qualify for coverage.

