

## **FAMILIES, ADVOCATES PRAISE PASSAGE OF IVF & FERTILITY PRESERVATION INSURANCE REFORMS IN NY STATE BUDGET**

*The Measures Represent The Most Significant Coverage Increase For Family Building In New York In Seventeen Years.*

ALBANY, NY – A coalition of families, advocates, family building professionals and lawmakers today secured the most significant insurance coverage increase for family building in the state of New York in seventeen years.

In what advocates characterize as a major step forward, Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the state legislature agreed to include these significant IVF and fertility preservation measures in this year's state budget. The budget requires large group health insurance plans statewide to cover in-vitro fertilization (IVF) and requires all commercial insurance plans to cover medically necessary fertility preservation treatments.

The coalition, who had been fighting tirelessly for these reforms for many years, included RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, The Alliance for Fertility Preservation, The American Society for Reproductive Medicine, fertility and oncology doctors and centers, patient advocates, Assembly member Aravella Simotas, State Senator Diane Savino and pharmaceutical companies EMD Serono and Ferring Pharmaceuticals.

“These reforms represent a major step forward for thousands of New Yorkers who will soon have access to fertility medical treatments. For so many people struggling to build their families, these insurance requirements will offer a lifeline. While there is more work to be done to expand access to even more in need, we thank Governor Cuomo and the Legislature for taking action to help families across the state get the medical treatments they not only need, but deserve,” said **Barbara Collura, President & CEO of RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association.**

“We are grateful to Governor Cuomo for recognizing cancer patients’ right to obtain medically necessary fertility preservation services. Ensuring this coverage will allow newly diagnosed New Yorkers to focus on their cancer treatment, while knowing that their ability to one day have a family is being valued and protected,” said **Joyce Reinecke, Executive Director of the Alliance for Fertility Preservation.**

“The American Society for Reproductive Medicine applauds the news that New York has passed a long overdue update to the state’s infertility statute as part of its budget bill today. Policymakers in New York have demonstrated the importance that infertility patients have access to this health care, including IVF, and that cancer patients be able to preserve their fertility options for their future family building goals. The community of doctors helping patients to build families is grateful and ecstatic,” said **Peter Schlegel, MD, President of The American Society for Reproductive Medicine.**

New York now joins nine states that require IVF insurance coverage, and five states that require medically necessary fertility preservation insurance coverage.