



TESTIMONY OF GLBTQ LEGAL ADVOCATES & DEFENDERS
In Support, with Amendments, of House Bill 5483
An Act Concerning Fertility Care Under the Medicaid Program
Connecticut Human Services Committee
March 10, 2026

Dear Senator Lesser, Representative Gilchrest, and distinguished members of the Human Services Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of raised House Bill 5483, An Act Concerning Fertility Care Under the Medicaid Program. Our names are Patience Crozier and Hannah Hussey, and we are, respectively, the Director of Family Advocacy and a Staff Attorney at GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD Law). This legislation is an important LGBTQ and reproductive rights measure that ensures access to fertility health care for Connecticut residents who have Medicaid and need care to build their families. Access to family building has never been more important, particularly in light of efforts to restrict access to fertility health care in other states and attacks on LGBTQ families.

As you know, GLAD Law is New England's leading legal rights organization dedicated to ensuring equality for LGBTQ people and people living with HIV. At GLAD Law, our family law work focuses on the well-being and needs of children and families, including family creation and the protection of parent-child relationships. Stable and secure parent/child relationships are core to a thriving community. LGBTQ individuals and couples strive to create families just like all other people, and they face additional barriers to securing the health care they need to build their families.

Connecticut does not currently provide adequate coverage for fertility health care for people on Medicaid. The status quo prioritizes only diagnosis but leaves people without the care they need to build a family. This bill is a reasonable first step in improving access to coverage for hopeful parents. Given the increased attacks on reproductive rights from the Trump Administration, it is more important than ever for states like Connecticut to ensure their laws guarantee access to fertility health care.

We strongly support H.B. 5483 which provides:

- Coverage for diagnosis of infertility;
- Coverage for fertility preservation;
- Coverage for fertility treatment, including intrauterine insemination;
- A definition of infertility that aligns with the current medical standard of care as articulated in the definition of infertility updated by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) dating to October 2023, which includes coverage for LGBTQ+ people, single people, and patients often excluded from coverage including those suffering from endometriosis or pelvic pain;
- Provisions to ensure nondiscrimination in care; and
- Language to ensure that IVF is studied so that coverage may include this best-practice care in the future.

House Bill 5483 is an important step to ensure that Connecticut provides better access to fertility health care for community members on Medicaid. GLAD Law hopes this Committee will support this legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or for additional information.

Respectfully submitted,



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