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TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Shelly Hettleman

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
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DATE: February 26, 2020

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 988 – *Health Insurance – In Vitro Fertilization – Revisions*

On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi) and the Maryland Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (MDACOG), we submit this letter of **support** for Senate Bill 988. Senate Bill 988 accomplishes two tasks. First, it lifts the exclusion against unmarried individuals being able to qualify for the in vitro fertilization benefit. Second, it changes the timeframe for when a patient can be considered “qualified” for in vitro fertilization to better align with recognized clinical protocols.

Maryland’s current law requires that a patient and the patient’s spouse must have a history of involuntary infertility of at least two years’ duration. However, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists defines infertility as a disease characterized by the failure to achieve clinical pregnancy after 12 months of regular, unprotected sexual intercourse for women younger than 35 years or within six months in women older than 35 years of age. Reducing this requirement to one-year better aligns with clinical protocols. Therefore, we urge a favorable report.

For more information call:

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