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Legislative District 18
Montgomery County
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Appropriations Committee
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Vice Chair, Health and
Social Services Subcommittee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 482

Health - Donor-Conceived Individuals and Gamete Agencies, Gamete Banks, and Fertility Clinics Testimony in SUPPORT

Chair Peña-Melnyk, Vice-Chair Cullison, and members of the Health and Government Operations committee,

Thank you for your consideration of House Bill 482, a bill that seeks to enable access to a donor-conceived individual of their own personal, clinically relevant medical history.

The bill as introduced models bipartisan legislation that recently passed in Colorado, and would assist donor-conceived individuals in accessing their own medical history. This will enable them to help reduce the risk of misdiagnosis, avoid unnecessary tests and procedures, and deliver more effective treatments.

House Bill 482 seeks to address these issues by ensuring that gamete banks are required to collect and verify medical information from donors and provide that information, upon request, to both recipients and donor-conceived individuals. Enacting HB 482 will help to improve health outcomes for donor-conceived individuals and ensure that donor-conceived individuals have access to the same basic medical information as individuals who are not donor-conceived.

This bill does not seek to take away the rights of donors but rather to equip donor-conceived individuals with clinically significant information that could impact their health and well-being. As technology advances, it is increasingly difficult to maintain complete anonymity, and many companies already provide ancestry and health information.

I have been working collaboratively with stakeholders to address concerns relating to the application of the Colorado bill here in Maryland, and look forward to bringing a sponsor amendment to committee soon.

In closing, I urge you to support House Bill 482, the Donor-Conceived Person Protection Act, with the sponsor amendment soon to come, to help ensure that donor-conceived residents of Maryland have access to the basic medical information they need to lead healthy lives.