

HADASSAH



April 20, 2026

**The Honorable Tim Walberg  
Chairman**

House Committee on Education and the  
Workforce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**The Honorable Robert “Bobby” Scott  
Ranking Member**

House Committee on Education and the  
Workforce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

CC: Members of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce

Dear Chairman Walberg, Ranking Member Scott and Members of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce:

**In recognition of National Infertility Awareness Week, Hadassah, The Women’s Zionist Organization of America, The Tzedek Association and the undersigned 13 organizations join together in urging Congress to expand access to infertility diagnosis, treatment and services and support Americans on their path toward parenthood by cosponsoring and advancing the bipartisan HOPE with Fertility Services Act (H.R. 8119).** This legislation, recently introduced by your colleagues Representatives Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) and Zach Nunn (R-IA), would require group health plans that cover obstetrical services to also cover infertility diagnosis, treatment, and standard fertility preservation services, thereby expanding coverage to 133 million Americans with health insurance provided by private, large group health plans.

Infertility impacts [1 in 6](#) people globally. Despite scientific advancements in prevention, diagnosis and treatment of infertility, including hormone testing, genetic testing, and assisted reproductive technology such as in vitro fertilization (IVF), many Americans are unaware of the resources available to them and do not have the financial means to access treatment.

While the United States has made great strides in understanding and treating infertility, the prevalence of infertility, its risk factors and its impact on certain racial and ethnic populations are not well understood. **Infertility has a heightened impact on the Jewish community**, as many Ashkenazi Jews are carriers of genetic diseases that can be fatal. For example, having ancestors from Eastern and Central European Jewish communities is a risk factor for [Tay-Sachs disease](#), a rare genetic disorder that can lead to seizures, vision and hearing loss, paralysis, and is typically fatal. In addition, one in 10 Ashkenazi Jews carry the mutated gene that causes [Gaucher Disease](#), a disease causing damage and dysfunction to the spleen, liver and bones. While carrier screening has significantly reduced the incidence of these diseases, there are still improvements to be made in researching causes and treatment for infertility. Several conditions that cause infertility are also

more prevalent in the Jewish community, including [cystic fibrosis](#) (CF), which can cause infertility in [over 97%](#) of men with CF.

An estimated [10% of women](#) ages 18-49 report that they or their partner have spoken to a doctor about ways to help them become pregnant. While the cost of fertility treatment can vary depending on location and insurance coverage, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates that the cost for a single cycle of IVF can range from [\\$15,000 to \\$20,000](#).

Insurance coverage for fertility services is limited, leaving many treatment options out of reach for Americans looking to grow their families. According to a survey of employer health benefits in 2024, [only 27%](#) of large firms that offered health benefits covered IVF services. As of 2020, [over 30 states had no mandate](#) for insurers to cover or offer infertility services.

While millions of Americans struggle with diagnosed fertility conditions, many individuals also see their fertility at risk because of medical treatments such as chemotherapy, radiation or surgery. [Fertility in cancer patients](#) can be affected by damage to organs involved in reproduction, including the ovaries, uterus and cervix, and damage to organs involved in hormone production, such as the pituitary gland. Within the Jewish community, it's estimated that [1 in 40 people of Ashkenazi Jewish descent](#) carry mutations in the BRCA1 or BRCA2 genes, which is 10 times higher than in the general population, underscoring the importance of access to fertility preservation services.

Patients navigating complex and costly cancer diagnoses and treatments should not have to face the added costs and worries around infertility. Passing the HOPE with Fertility Services Act (H.R. 8119) is a critical step toward expanding coverage of fertility preservation services for patients battling difficult diagnoses.

Costs should not stand in the way of building a family. Lowering barriers to care and expanding access to fertility diagnosis and treatment are critical for all Americans. We call on you to support and advance the HOPE with Fertility Services Act (H.R. 8119). Americans across the country are counting on you to help them make parenthood a reality.

Sincerely,  
Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America  
The Tzedek Association  
A Giving Hand  
Coalition for Jewish Values  
I Was Supposed To Have A Baby  
Jewish Federations of North America  
Jewish Fertility Foundation  
Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance  
Jewish Women International  
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies  
Tahareinu  
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America  
Women of Reform Judaism  
Women's League for Conservative Judaism  
Yesh Tikva