

March 28, 2023

Rep. Tina Liebling
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
477 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155



Dear Chair Liebling:

The Minnesota Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) is writing to thank you for prioritizing maternal, reproductive and family health in your 2023 Health Finance Omnibus bill.

We are incredibly grateful that you have included HF210 authored by Rep. Bahner which would require payment for Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) immediate postpartum in inpatient settings. As you know, Minnesota is one of roughly ten states that haven't used guidance released by CMS in 2016 that outlined numerous payment approaches several state Medicaid agencies used to optimize access and use of LARC. This is evidence-based care and convenient for patients who want this contraception in a timely manner.

We also are very thankful for including HF2099 authored by Rep. Richardson. This bill is very important to determine best protocols for when both moms and babies are tested and reported for illicit substances. We have been advocating for a more therapeutic approach to current policies to help families get the care they need without separating families if it isn't warranted. We appreciate you working with our association to find a path forward.

We are also grateful for the funding of Healthy Beginnings, Healthy Families proposal from the Governor's budget. The purpose of the Healthy Beginnings, Healthy Families Act is to build equitable, inclusive, and culturally and linguistically responsive systems that ensure the health and well-being of young children and their families by supporting the Minnesota perinatal quality collaborative.

Lastly, thank you for authoring and including much of HF91 which would repeal a number of harmful, outdated, and unconstitutional restrictions on abortion care for patients. We support removing barriers to all reproductive health care options and thank you again for prioritizing women's health in your omnibus bill. If you have any questions, please reach out to our policy consultant, Tara Erickson, at Tara@tgeconsultingmn.com.

Sincerely,

Siri Fiebiger, MD
Minnesota ACOG