



Facing Hereditary Cancer EMPOWERED

May 4, 2026

Re: Please vote in favor of SB 2460

Dear Chair Murray, Vice Chair Lauria and Esteemed Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee,

On behalf of FORCE (Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered), a leading nonprofit for people at risk for hereditary cancer, providing trusted information, support and advocacy and our Rhode Island constituents, I am writing to express strong support for SB 2460. SB 2460 would facilitate fertility services for all Rhode Islanders, including men who are dealing with a medical diagnosis or treatment that may impair their ability to have children and aligns services with respected national guidelines.

Patients, including men, dealing with a frightening diagnosis—who are about to begin lifesaving, but potentially sterilizing treatments—have to make urgent, difficult decisions about their future hopes of becoming a parent. Similarly, women with an inherited genetic mutation predisposing them to ovarian cancer are advised to undergo surgery to remove their ovaries and fallopian tubes to avoid this deadly disease. For these individuals, fertility preservation is the only means available to protect their reproductive capability and may be the only viable option to build a biological family. Without insurance coverage for fertility services, patients cannot afford these procedures and fees and will face permanent, involuntary infertility.

Fortunately, this legislation would give most Rhode Island state residents options for those confronting this dilemma, by ensuring that they have insurance coverage for effective, evidence-based, guideline-recommended options for preserving their fertility before their surgery or initiation of cancer therapy and pursuing future interventions to realize their dream of having children. By aligning with national guidelines issued by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), we can ensure patients receive the most modern and appropriate care.

FORCE has a strong presence throughout Rhode Island. Members of our community facing cancer are desperate for a glimmer of hope to help them preserve the option of having children. We respectfully ask you to help patients facing infertility by supporting SB 2460.

Thank you for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Peabody".

Lisa Peabody
Advocacy Manager
202-381-1357

