

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 21, 2024

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Chairman
House Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member
House Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jack Reed
Chairman
Senate Committee on Armed Services
228 Russell Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Armed Services
228 Russell Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Rogers, Chairman Reed, Ranking Member Smith, and Ranking Member Wicker,

As you finalize the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2025, we respectfully urge you not to include any House or Senate provisions that expand In Vitro Fertilization (IVF). Specifically, the House passed *Section 701. Assisted Reproductive Technology For Certain Members of the Armed Forces and their Dependents Under Tricare* or anything similar should not be included.

Section 701 is a dramatic expansion of IVF that will cost taxpayers approximately \$1 billion per year. While we have great sympathy for couples who are having difficulty starting a family, IVF is ineffective, leads to the destruction of innocent human life, and does nothing to treat the root cause of a couple's infertility. For example, in 2021, there were around 4.1 million embryonic children created through IVF, but only 97,128 of those children were born.¹ This means that only 2.3% of fertilized embryos resulted in a live birth.

IVF continues to be heavily underregulated and is done without the needed ethical guidelines in place. There are no limits under current law on how many embryos can be created in an IVF cycle. Members of Congress wrote a letter to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) asking for basic information including how many embryos are destroyed each year through IVF, how many embryos are screened for sex selection and genetic abnormalities, and whether the CDC has any moral or ethical concerns about how fertility clinics are currently conducting IVF.² The CDC was unable to answer any of these basic questions.

Congress must protect the most vulnerable in our country and reject any provision that leads to the destruction of innocent human life and expands our nearly \$36 trillion debt. Thanks for your attention to this request.

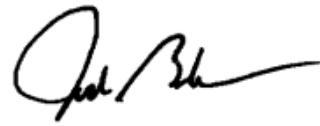
¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/art/reports/2021/pdf/Report-ART-Fertility-Clinic-National-Summary-H.pdf>

² <https://brecheen.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=295>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt M. Rosendale, Sr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew M. Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Brecheen" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Josh Brecheen
Member of Congress