

Right to Build Families Act of 2022

***U.S. Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) and Patty Murray (D-WA) and
U.S. Congresswoman Susan Wild (D-PA-07)***

BACKGROUND:

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in four women married to men have difficulty getting pregnant or carrying a pregnancy to term. This does not include the many LGBTQ+ couples and those that choose to parent without a partner who may need assisted reproductive technologies (ART), such as in vitro fertilization (IVF), to start and grow families. Since 1981, those hoping to become parents from across the country have used ART, and to date, over one million infants have been born because of the availability of this medical procedure. About two percent of all infants born in the United States each year are conceived via ART, and the CDC has noted that the use of IVF specifically has more than doubled over the past decade.

BILL SUMMARY:

The choice to build a family is a fundamental right for all Americans. To ensure this right is upheld and remains protected, regardless of a person's zip code, Senators Duckworth and Murray and Congresswoman Wild are introducing the *Right to Build Families Act of 2022*. This bill would:

- Prohibit limiting any individual from accessing ART or retaining their reproductive genetic materials, including gametes;
- Protect healthcare providers who provide ART or related counseling and information;
- Allow the Department of Justice to pursue civil action against states that violate the legislation; and
- Create a private right of action for individuals and healthcare providers in states that have limited access to ART.

Groups supporting the *Right to Build Families Act of 2022* include: American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; American Humanist Association; American Society for Reproductive Medicine; Center for Reproductive Rights; HealthyWomen; National Council of Jewish Women; National Partnership for Women and Families; Physicians for Reproductive Health; RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association.