



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

S.C.R. NO. 152, S.D. 1, REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF MANDATING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR OOCYTE CRYOPRESERVATION

Hearing: Thursday, April 14, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

The Office of the Auditor appreciates the opportunity to testify on S.C.R. No. 152, S.D. 1, requesting the auditor to assess the social and financial effects of mandating health insurance coverage for oocyte cryopreservation procedures, and offers the following comments.

Section 23-51, HRS, requires our office to assess the social and financial effects of proposed mandated health insurance coverage in specific legislative bills referred to us by the Legislature. Section 23-52, HRS, further enumerates the specific types of social and financial impacts our office must assess and provides a framework for our report.

By contrast, the resolution would have us perform additional work which we believe is outside of our office's expertise and may prove challenging for our office to perform. Specifically, the resolution requires the Auditor to:

- research what is being used as the standard medical definition of “reproductive age” that is best suited for oocyte cryopreservation procedures and to examine the success rates for the different age groups to determine coverage benefit limitations for this proposed covered benefit, including an examination of whether different standards of infertility treatments are applied to different age groups in need of infertility treatments;
- examine current medically necessary standards of care used to determine what types of infertility treatment options are available; and
- research the complex legal issues surrounding the rights and entitlements with respect to the frozen eggs, including contract remedies (for example, cryopreservation contracts) to address the storage and disposition of the cryopreserved material.

We suggest that the resolution be amended to exclude this additional work given our limited expertise in the area.

Thank you for considering our testimony related to S.C.R. No. 152, S.D. 1.