



The American Society for Reproductive Medicine

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March 11, 2019

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo
Governor, State of New York
Capital Building Albany NY 12224

Dear Governor:

On behalf of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) and the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology (SART), we are writing to support the Child-Parent Security Act (S2071/A1071), legislation to legally establish a child's relationship to his or her parents where the child is conceived through collaborative reproduction.

The Child-Parent Security Act aims to provide safeguards for all the parties involved in attempts at collaborative reproduction, including not only any children born of such arrangements, but also the intended parents, donors, and gestational carriers who are a part of such arrangements.

ASRM is a multidisciplinary organization of nearly 8,000 professionals dedicated to the advancement of the science and practice of reproductive medicine. Distinguished members of ASRM include obstetricians and gynecologists, urologists, reproductive endocrinologists, embryologists, mental health professionals and others. SART is an organization of nearly 400 member practices performing more than 95% of the assisted reproductive technology (ART) cycles in the United States. SART's mission is to set and help maintain the highest medical and professional standards for ART. SART works with the ASRM to create practice guidelines and minimum standards of care. SART is also actively involved in the collection of data outcomes from its member programs. ASRM has over 500 individual members in New York and SART has more than 30 member clinics in the state.

New York is one of a unique few states that bans family building with the assistance of a compensated gestational carrier. As a result, couples needing the help of a gestational carrier are forced to go outside of the state which adds unnecessary complexity and costs to their quest for a family.



The use of gestational carriers is an important therapeutic modality for patients. For some, it is the only safe way for them to build their families. We believe careful procedures including recognized contracts are the best way to ensure a good outcome for all concerned. Our ethics committee report on gestational carriers recognizes the legitimacy of compensation and lays out some of the safeguards that need to be in place. The provisions of this proposed legislation are consistent with our standards.

The Child-Parent Security Act will allow intended parents to remain in the state to participate in the pregnancy and to use medical and legal professionals licensed in the state. Further, the legislation makes clear the requirements, obligations and rights of all parties in the collaborative reproduction arrangement and these too are consistent with our medical and ethical guidelines.

Those seeking to build families via collaborative reproduction and those seeking to help build families deserve the ability to stay in their home state and carry on their lives during the process. They deserve and expect the law to reflect that this form of family building as legitimate and protected. The intended parents deserve the ability to welcome their children in their own home state and to have the certainty of parentage upon the birth of their children.

We thank you for your strong support of this important legislation and are pleased to lend our voice to your efforts to secure its swift passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Peter W. Schlegel'.

Peter Schlegel, MD
President, ASRM

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Amy Sparks'.

Amy Sparks, PhD
President, SART