

Mary Audia Mulholland  
Scarborough  
LD 258

My name is Mary Audia Mulholland, and my husband and I live in Scarborough. We desperately want to be parents, but to date, we have had 2 miscarriages, we have completed 3 cycles of IVF, and I've had one surgery for endometriosis over the past 2 years. I am currently preparing for another frozen embryo transfer in March.

My husband and I moved to Maine from New York 2.5 years ago. We had our New York-based jobs and insurance coverage for all 3 cycles of IVF, which was covered at 90% under the state law. We decided to move to Maine for many reasons, but the top ones being improved quality of life and because it's a great place to raise a family. We have fallen in love with our life in Maine, and we just purchased our first home in 2022. We also celebrated our COVID-delayed wedding in Portland last year, where over 150 guests traveled in from out-of-state to see the beautiful place we now call home.

When we first moved to Maine, we originally kept our New York-based jobs, but it was very important for us both to work for Maine companies. We were distressed to find that Maine did not have insurance coverage for our medically necessary fertility treatments, and now I am so proud that the state has passed this bill to support family building.

That said, because of the time-sensitive nature of fertility treatments, we could not wait until 2024 for the law to go into effect. When job hunting, I applied and interviewed for dozens of Maine companies, but I had to prioritize the ones that offered fertility benefits, as paying out of pocket for medically necessary health care is not an option for us. Both my husband and I now proudly work for Maine-based companies.

I am grateful that my job offers some fertility benefits, but it only offers 2 cycles of IVF. Unfortunately, this does not give us enough coverage to feel secure to build the family we hope to have in the long term. Studies show that a majority of couples need between 2-4 cycles of IVF to achieve one live birth.

We need this law to be implemented on January 1, 2024 as passed to ensure we can become parents in Maine. Please support this budget funding to help ensure families like mine stay here in Maine to grow their families. Thank you.