

Jessica Hamann
Rumford

My name is Jessica I live in Rumford Maine and my daughter is 8 years old. It took her Dad and I 5 years, lots of tears, prayers, good doctors and our insurance company to understand that infertility is not a choice, to create her through IVF. I cannot imagine if we hadn't had health insurance through my husband's employer that did cover a portion of the medical part of our IVF journey. I wouldn't be making her dinner and reading a bedtime story to her tonight.

And unfortunately after having her they found out I had placenta accreta and I had to have emergency hysterectomy.

Growing up I never dreamed of having a big time career. I only ever wanted to be a Mom. I wanted to have 2 children maybe 3.

I felt confident that after pregnancy I'd be able to get pregnant on my own, until my hysterectomy took that option away.

Fast forward 8 years and we desperately want to complete our family. But this time health insurance wont cover any part of the medical section of our infertility. I have been on both sides of the fence now. It was so much emotionally and physically 8 years ago. And we didnt have to worry about the financial piece like we are this time. To already have so much stress and just be told to complete our family would cost us an astronomical amount that the average family cannot afford, its not fair. Everyone should have the opportunity to complete their family.

Maine needs to pass bill LD 1539. It is the first step in beginning to stop attaching shame to infertility.

I appreciate the time your taking to listen to my story and many others.