



October 20, 2023

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House Judiciary Committee
124 North Capitol Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933

Re: Assisted Reproduction and Surrogacy Parentage Act

Dear Chair Breen, Vice Chair Edwards, and Vice Chair Fink, and members of the committee:

On behalf of the Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (“AAAA”), we are writing to state our strong support for the “Assisted Reproduction and Surrogacy Parentage Act” and respectfully ask that the committee advance this bill.

AAAA is a credentialed, nonprofit organization of attorneys, judges and law professors throughout the United States and internationally, who are distinguished in the fields of adoption and assisted reproductive technology. Our Fellows are committed to the ethical practice of adoption and assisted reproductive technology law. We support and advocate for the rights of individuals to create, and for children to live in legally secure families.

We are heartened to see that Michigan is considering legislation that will repeal existing legislation and create secure legal families while providing guardrails and safeguards to protect the rights of all parties involved. Part 3 of the proposed legislation provides minimum requirements and protections for both surrogates and intended parents, all designed to provide for the ethical practice of gestational surrogacy.

If passed, Michigan citizens will have access to gestational surrogacy arrangements that protect the gestational surrogates (as well as their families) by adopting requirements including independent legal representation, medical, and mental health consultation to ensure that the surrogate has informed consent for all aspects of the arrangement. It will in turn also protect the legal integrity of the family created when the child is born.

We are happy to discuss this further, and strongly support the advancement of this bill.

Sincerely,

Nidhi Desai
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