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August 9, 2024

Task Force on Parentage Laws
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Task Force Members:

RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association represents the millions of women and men in the U.S. with infertility and the more than 28,000 Hawaii residents struggling with this disease, plus thousands more who require medical intervention to build their families. We are pleased to support enactment of the current Uniform Parentage Act, as updated in 2024.

Infertility is a disease, recognized by the American Medical Association, affecting 9.7 million people in the United States. According to the CDC, one in seven women have trouble getting pregnant or sustaining a pregnancy. Infertility cuts across socioeconomic levels, racial identities, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, and religious affiliations.

People impacted by infertility may turn to assisted reproduction to build their families, and some, including the LGBTQ+ community and unpartnered individuals, will need donor gametes and/or surrogacy, also known as collaborative reproduction, to have a child.

It is especially important for children born of collaborative reproduction to have the same rights and protections as children born without the assistance of a third party. The updated Uniform Parentage Act will ensure legally secure parent-child relationships and bring Hawaii law up to date in addressing the legal challenges and opportunities that modern medicine has brought to family building.

We are happy to provide you additional information on this issue as RESOLVE has been providing support, information, and advocacy for the infertility community since 1974. I can be reached at bcollura@resolve.org and our website is www.resolve.org.

Sincerely,

Barbara Collura
President and CEO