



August 26, 2016

Legislative Commission on Surrogacy  
State Capitol  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Members of the Legislative Commission on Surrogacy:

On behalf of the Minnesota Medical Association (MMA), thank you for your consideration of the issues related to surrogacy. The MMA is the professional association of Minnesota physicians, residents, and medical students. The MMA would like to offer the following comments regarding surrogacy as you consider possible legislative action.

The MMA believes that the utilization of a gestational carrier is an ethical medical procedure when practiced consistent with professional guidelines. The decision to participate in a gestational carrier arrangement is a decision between a physician and patients, both the initiating parents and the gestational carrier. The legal rights and responsibilities of all parties to a gestational carrier arrangement should be clearly defined.

The MMA further believes that best practices and the standard of care should originate from medical experts, not the legislature. In this case, the American Society of Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), has promulgated positions on the ethical imperatives for physicians caring for gestational carriers as well as intended parents. We would urge you to give strong consideration to the position of medical experts who practice in this area of medicine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Thorson, MD  
President  
Minnesota Medical Association