



**CENTER FOR
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Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
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September 16, 2009

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

We write to ask for your signature on AB 1317, which requires that ads soliciting women to provide eggs for people using assisted reproduction procedures include a reference to possible health risks.

We are increasingly hearing reports from reproductive health advocates, college professors, journalists, and young women themselves that many egg providers are not aware of the significant health risks that egg extraction entails. AB 1317 offers a minimal way of addressing this concern, with no costs to taxpayers and no costs or burdens to the fertility industry.

The economic downturn is leading more and more young women to seek to bolster their financial situation by getting money in exchange for providing their eggs. This is particularly true in our state, since California is home to a large number of assisted reproduction clinics and egg brokers. AB 1317 provides an opportunity for our state to take a leadership role in improving the quality of informed consent for egg donors, and thus in protecting the health and well-being of young women in California.

Most medical practitioners in the assisted reproduction field are responsible, and attend thoroughly to the best interests of all their patients, even those like the young women providing eggs who are not themselves fee-paying patients. But rules are needed to help counter the harms caused by those who might cut corners.

The California Senate voted to support AB 1317 by a vote of 30 to 3. In the interests of the health of California's young women, we urge you to sign it.

Sincerely,

Marcy Darnovsky
Associate Executive Director
Center for Genetics and Society