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Assembly Committee on Appropriations P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0004

RE: AB 1896 (Quirk): Gamete banks.

Position: Oppose

Dear Chair Holden and Vice Chair Bigelow,

On behalf of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), I am writing to oppose AB 1896, an act to amend the Health and Safety Code relating to gamete banks.

The American Society for Reproductive (ASRM) has, for nearly a century, been the global leader in multidisciplinary reproductive medicine research, ethical practice, and education. ASRM's approximately 8,000 distinguished members, which include obstetricians and gynecologists, urologists, mental health professionals and others, represent more than 100 countries and impact and inform all aspects of reproductive care and science worldwide. Our focus is on serving our members, our patients, and the children born as a result of assisted reproductive technologies.

We are concerned that AB 1896 would put an undue burden on physicians, who would be required by the bill to provide information on possible risks of unintentional consanguinity, risks that are unquantifiable by medicine or science. There is always some risk to reproduction, regardless of the method. Singling out donor-conception reproduction is not an effective mitigation strategy to combat those risks. In addition, the text of the bill includes terms like, "good faith effort" and "among other things," language that is too open-ended to be regulatable and leaves gamete banks and those who provide valuable family-building care open to liability.

For these reasons, we oppose AB 1896.

For more information, please contact me at <u>Stipton@asrm.org</u> or 202-421-5112.



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Chevis Shannon, DrPH, MPH, MBA, MERC Chief Education & Science Officer Sincerely,

Sean Tipton

Chief Advocacy and Policy Officer American Society for Reproductive Medicine