

RESOLUTION NUMBER 16
RECOGNIZING APRIL 24-30 AS INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, According to the CDC, 1 in 8 couples have trouble getting pregnant or sustaining a pregnancy;
and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization and American Medical Association define infertility as a disease;
and

WHEREAS, Infertility affects all people regardless of gender identity equally and does not discriminate based on race, religion, sexual orientation, marital status or socioeconomic level; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQIA community and unpartnered people who are seeking to become pregnant also face challenges when building their families; and

WHEREAS, All people challenged in their family building journey should have access to all family building options; and

WHEREAS, Family building options include adoption and medical treatment, including Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) such as in vitro fertilization and third-party reproduction; and

WHEREAS, Cost and lack of insurance coverage are barriers for many in our City to access the family building option they need; and

WHEREAS, Raising awareness of infertility and the barriers faced by the family building community is the first step to removing these barriers; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis joins RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, and dedicated volunteers, health care professionals, and members of the infertility and family building community by participating in this promotion; and

WHEREAS, only 19 states have passed fertility insurance coverage laws, and only 13 of those laws include IVF coverage; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri does not currently require fertility insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis is adding fertility coverage to employee insurance benefits in 2022; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize April 24-30th as National Infertility Awareness Week.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we call on employers in the City of St. Louis to follow the lead of St. Louis City Government and add fertility coverage as an employee healthcare benefit so that all people who wish to grow their family have access to the resources and tools that they need to do so.

Introduced on the 29th day of April, 2022, by:
The Honorable Megan Ellyia Green, Alderwoman 15th Ward
The Honorable Bill Stephens, Alderwoman 12th Ward
The Honorable Christine Ingrassia, Alderwoman 6th Ward
The Honorable Anne Schweitzer, Alderwoman 13th Ward
The Honorable Dan Guenther, Alderman 9th Ward

The Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25th Ward
The Honorable Annie Rice, Alderwoman 8th Ward
The Honorable Bret Narayan, Alderman 24th Ward

Adopted the 29th day of April, 2021, as attested by:

Terry Kennedy
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen