

To: info@devalpatrick.com

From: Lynne Millican

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Dear Rafi,

I wanted to close this first full week of the governor-elect's victory by sending my best wishes and congratulations to Deval Patrick and his campaign. Never have I been more certain of a political campaign outcome! I also want you to know that I've been attempting to deal with MA. Republican administrations since 1992 regarding my concerns with the fertility industry, but have been met with no substantive response. I can't say I'm certain that Governor Patrick will fully address this issue, but I can say that I am greatly encouraged that he will examine the matter.

To that end, I wanted to again stress the impact of the damage wrought by the unregulated multibillion dollar fertility industry -from lack of informed consent of the risks of the drugs and procedures, to adverse health sequelae to the women post-treatment, and to birth defects and handicapped offspring, to name a few. Massachusetts has the highest number of ART (assisted reproductive technologies) procedures in the country, the highest triplet rates in the country, and the highest twin rates in the country.

There were 4,300 children in MA. special education in 1992 - that figure rose in 2002 to 22,000 - a 400% increase in MA special education costs in one decade. This year the CDC, for the **first** time, published data on adverse perinatal outcomes:

56% of ART twins had low birth weight.

64% of ART twins were preterm.

94% of ART triplets had low birth weight.

97% of ART triplets were preterm.

It has only recently been recognized that a premature baby's brain does **not** grow normally outside the uterus, and brain volume (grey matter) deficits of 20% have been documented by MRI's in these babies. The average cost of adverse perinatal outcomes for these children's lifetime special needs has been estimated as an extra \$500,000 per child.

These are serious matters, with profound medical, psychological, financial, and societal effects, that must be addressed on their own 'merit' - never mind expanding the harm this field can do with embryonic stem cell research, where more women will be overdosed with hazardous fertility drugs to maximize the numbers of eggs they can produce for research.

There are numerous groups which echo my concerns of subjecting young, healthy, vulnerable women to the enticement of 'altruistically donating for cures' or 'for cash', and will provide 2 links below fyi.

I wish the new administration well, and hope to hear from Governor Patrick in the near future.

Best wishes,

Lynne Millican