

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Public Health  
For HB 4960

Compiled on: Monday, April 24, 2023 2:53 PM

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Hearing Date: April 24, 2023 8:00 AM

David Hancock  
Heroes for Children  
Denison, TX

As the CEO of Heroes for Children, a registered 501c3 in Texas and partnering the last 19 years with some of our biggest pediatric cancer Hospitals (i.e. MD Anderson, Texas Childrens Hospital, Dell Children's, Childrens Health, Cook Children's, etc.) in Texas, we have a lot of experience with the struggles of families that have a child battling cancer. What most people don't know about a teenage child who is battling cancer, is that when they enter chemo treatment, they will either become biologically sterile or the treatment will compromise their ability to have a healthy child in their future. This is shocking news to most people, and it becomes imperative that parents know their options before their chemo treatment begins and how they can plan for their child's future.

This is at the heart of the mission for our organization, Heroes for Children [www.heroesforchildren.org](http://www.heroesforchildren.org). We help children and their families with fertility assistance for sperm banking and egg retrieval before treatment begins. This is imperative, so that a teenager, after successful treatment, has the opportunity for their own biological child in the future. Heroes for Children as a 501c3 Non-Profit can't come to the rescue unless this information is shared with the family so that organizations like ours can provide fertility assistance for their child.

This is why I am partnering with Jason Denton and his son Noah, who did not have access to this vitality important information, for any measures that our Texas Legislature could help with. To have a requirement that discloses this information to all families at medical facilities before cancer treatment begins is the right thing to do for these families. I'm asking the Texas Legislature to help families like the Denton family and many others, the opportunity to not fight that battle alone by requiring medical facilities to disclose this information up front, so that all families can have the choice of future life.

Thank you for your consideration and help, so that families that are in the fight of their life with their child battling cancer will not have to fight that battle alone!