Dear Representative:

On behalf of over 100 undersigned organizations, we urge you to strongly oppose attacks on mifepristone in the FY24 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. Rep. Rosa DeLauro has introduced an amendment that would strike an extreme and harmful provision in the bill that attempts to politicize the FDA and limit its authority and reject years of scientific and medical expertise. We the undersigned groups support this amendment and oppose all attacks on medication abortion and support the FDA's independent scientific-decision making authority.

The bill includes a harmful new rider that attempts to force back in place burdensome, medically unnecessary restrictions <u>FDA lifted</u> earlier this year after extensive, evidence-based review. Specifically, in January 2023, the FDA lifted the medically unnecessary in-person dispensing requirement on mifepristone, allowing pharmacists to dispense in certified pharmacies, including mail-order pharmacies, to patients with a prescription.

Mifepristone is incredibly safe. It is supported by hundreds of studies and has a proven safety and effectiveness record of 99%. Mifepristone has been used by more than 5 million people for more than two decades and is one of two medications commonly used in medication abortions that accounts for more than half of all abortions across the country. Mifepristone has helped ensure that patients are able to make their own private medical decisions, and it has <u>expanded</u> access to <u>essential</u>, time-sensitive reproductive health care — something that is very clearly under threat in this country.

Banning or restricting access to mifepristone across the country would most severely impact people living in medically underserved communities, especially people of color and people with low incomes, who already face barriers to care due to systemic inequities in our country's health care system.

The vast majority of Americans support reproductive freedom. <u>85% of Americans want abortion</u> to be legal. New, repeated polling has demonstrated that people want mifepristone to remain on the market and accessible. In addition, the majority of people trust the FDA and want the agency to remain an independent body that is permitted to follow the medicine and science. People deserve to access the medication they need and providers should be able to provide that medication without unnecessary interference from politicians.

This harmful new rider is another attack on our fundamental freedom to make decisions about our own bodies. It is imperiling critical legislation by attaching ideological policy provisions that have no place in annual appropriations bills. Despite overwhelming public support for abortion access, this rider is an attempt to interfere with the FDA's process, restrict mifepristone access, and deny our communities and providers what they need.

Right now, despite intentional confusion, patients can still access mifepristone in states where abortion is legal and providers are doing everything possible to ensure patients can get the care they need. Lawmakers should be doing everything possible to support patients and providers and should be supporting the FDA's independent decision making and authority. Under no circumstances should lawmakers be using the appropriations process to further attack access to essential care.

Sincerely,

Planned Parenthood Federation of America Physicians for Reproductive Health A Woman's Choice clinics - Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh, NC and Jacksonville, FL Abortion Access Front Abortion Care Network Abortion Coalition for Telemedicine Access ACLU All* Above All Action Fund American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists American Humanist Association American Medical Student Association (AMSA) American Medical Women's Association American Sexual Health Association American Society for Emergency Contraception American Society for Reproductive Medicine Americans United for Separation of Church and State Amnesty International USA **Blue Mountain Clinic Brigid Alliance** Cambridge Reproductive Health Consultants Cedar River Clinics Center for American Progress Center for Biological Diversity Center for Reproductive Rights CenterLink: The Community of LGBTQ Centers Choix Cobalt Advocates Community Catalyst Concerned Citizen EMAA Project Equality California Faith Choice Ohio Family Planning Associates Medical Group FORGE, Inc. Gender Justice Grandmothers for Reproductive Rights (GRR!) Guttmacher Institute Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America Healthy Futures Healthy Teen Network Ibis Reproductive Health If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda ineedana.com Institute for Women's Policy Research interACT: Advocates for Intersex Youth Interfaith Alliance lpas Jacobs Institute of Women's Health Jewish Women International

July Medical Services, LLC dba Hope Medical of Penacola Just The Pill/Abortion Delivered Los Angeles LGBT Center Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom Mabel Wadsworth Center Medical Students for Choice **Midwest Access Coalition** Minority Veterans of America NARAL Pro-Choice America National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum National Center for Lesbian Rights National Council of Jewish Women National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association National Health Law Program National Immigration Law Center National Institute for Reproductive Health National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice National LGBTQ Task Force National Network to End Domestic Violence National Organization for Women National Partnership for Women & Families National Women's Health Network National Women's Law Center PAI Partners in Abortion Care **Population Institute** Positive Women's Network-USA Power to Decide **Pregnancy Justice** Presidential Women's Center, LP **Pro-Choice North Carolina** Provide Public Justice Center Reproaction Reproductive Freedom Fund of New Hampshire **Reproductive Health Access Project** Reproductive Health Initiative for Telehealth Equity & Solutions, a fiscally sponsored project of the Hopewell Fund RH Impact: The Collaborative for Equity & Justice Rhia Ventures Robbinsdale Clinic, PA Sciencecorps Service Employees International Union (SEIU) SHERo Mississippi SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine State Innovation Exchange (SiX) Action UC Davis UCSF Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health UltraViolet Action Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice

URGE: Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity We Testify Women's Law Project YWCA USA