GEORGE GASCÓN
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

HALL OF JUSTICE
211 WEST TEMPLE STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (213) 974-3500

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To: Supervisor Janice Hahn, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: George Gascón
District Attorney

REPORT ON THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY ABORTION SAFE HAVEN PROJECT

Our office is aware that in the wake of the decision in *Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. U.S. Food and Drug Administration*, a 2022 decision from the United States District Court in the Northern District of Texas, which seeks to challenge the Food and Drug Administration's approval of mifepristone, a drug used for abortions and for miscarriage management. Restricting access to mifepristone would result in restricting access to medication abortion care, and further curtail access to reproductive freedom.

As our office did in the wake of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, when we used our well-established discretion and committed to not prosecuting those who seek, assist in or provide abortions, we will continue to ensure that those making the most personal of healthcare decisions may make those decisions without fear of repercussion from the criminal justice system.

Our office recognizes that individuals may approach the issue of abortion from varied personal perspectives. Still, just as we agree that enforcing abortion bans is a threat to many in their communities, restricting access to abortion by curtailing access to medication runs counter to our obligation to pursue justice and promote public safety.

Our office supported AB 1242, which would prohibit a California peace officer from arresting any person for performing or aiding in the performance of an abortion within this State, or obtaining an abortion in this State, if the abortion falls within the protections of the Reproductive Privacy Act. We also supported SB 1245, which established the Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program to which Supervisor Horvath refers in her motion. We remain proud partners in ensuring Los Angeles County remains a place where residents and visitors alike can seek reproductive care, free from fear of repercussions of the criminal justice system.

Our office will continue to fight to protect people's right to seek abortions, not prosecute them for making the most personal of health care decisions, including when those decisions require access to certain medication. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office will continue to support legislation and efforts that support everyone's right to access reproductive healthcare.

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