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For more information: Laura Echevarria, (202) 626-8825, mediarelations@nrlc.org

National Right to Life Praises Members of Congress for Urging Enforcement of FDA Rules Regarding Mifepristone Abortions

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, National Right to Life (NRLC) praised action by a bicameral group of pro-life Senators and Members of Congress urging "robust enforcement" of the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) concerning the mifepristone (RU-486) abortion drug process.

In a letter sent to FDA Commissioner Stephen Hahn, M.D., and sponsored by U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.), U.S. Representative Bob Latta (R-Ohio) and signed by thirty-eight Senators and 121 Representatives, members of Congress wrote, "We write to urge you to continue to robustly enforce the REMS for medication abortion and end dangerous runarounds of these protections under the guise of medical research."

"We praise Senator Hyde-Smith, Representative Latta and these members of Congress for putting women and children's lives first. While the entire world is trying to save lives in a pandemic, pro-abortion groups and their supporters want to continue taking lives by expanding abortion access and putting lives at greater risk," said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life. "The abortion industry's 'business as usual' approach involves using an international crisis to expand the right to abortion."

The COVID-19 pandemic has seen bold attempts by abortion advocates to expand access to mail-order and telemedicine abortions by asking the FDA to remove or mitigate the REMS. Recently, California's Attorney General Xavier Becerra sent a letter—also signed by 20 other Democrat attorneys general—to the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services asking that restrictions on mifepristone abortions are lifted and allowed using telemedicine.

The FDA has a record of nearly two dozen deaths and thousands of complications associated with the use of these dangerous pills. These 'adverse events' include serious infections, severe hemorrhage, and the rupture of previously undiscovered ectopic pregnancies. The real possibility of a woman experiencing any of these adverse events means that she may have visited the emergency room because of hemorrhaging, severe pain, an incomplete abortion, or a ruptured ectopic pregnancy. Emergency rooms across the U.S. are struggling to meet the needs of those who have coronavirus. A woman suffering from the after-effects of a chemical abortion would put her at the center of the pandemic crisis where hospital staff is overextended and she has an increased chance of contracting COVID-19.

"In a pandemic, the abortion industry wants to place perfectly healthy mothers who are pregnant with perfectly healthy babies in danger," said Tobias. "During this time, it would be better for the mother and her child to be safe at home with the child alive and growing in her mother's womb." The letter from members can be found here.

The letter sent from the Democrat attorneys general can be found here.

Founded in 1968, the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC), the federation of 50 state right-to-life affiliates and more than 3,000 local chapters, is the nation's oldest and largest grassroots pro-life organization. Recognized as the flagship of the pro-life movement, NRLC works through legislation and education to protect innocent human life from abortion, infanticide, assisted suicide and euthanasia.

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Arkansas Right to Life is the state affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee the oldest and largest pro-life organization. For more information visit <u>https://artl.org/</u>.

Laura Echevarria Director of Communications and Press Secretary National Right to Life Committee, Inc. 1446 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314 (202) 626-8800 ext. 110 www.nrlc.org