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Experts in High-Risk Pregnancies Applaud Federal Legislation that Safeguards Access to Abortion Care

Tuesday, June 9, 2021 – On June 8, Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Representatives Judy Chu (D-CA), Lois Frankel (D-FL), Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), and Veronica Escobar (D-TX) reintroduced the *Women’s Health Protection Act* (WHPA). The WHPA is federal legislation that safeguards access to abortion care from medically unnecessary restrictions such as waiting periods, biased counseling, mandatory ultrasounds, and multiple visits to ensure that all individuals have access to abortion care. The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) joins hundreds of reproductive health organizations in endorsing the WHPA and releases the following statement in response.

“SMFM supports the right of all individuals to access the full spectrum of reproductive health services, including abortion care. As maternal-fetal medicine subspecialists, it is especially important that our patients have access to abortion care, which in some instances is necessary to preserve the health of the pregnant person. SMFM thanks Senators Blumenthal and Baldwin and Representatives Chu, Frankel, Pressley, and Escobar for introducing legislation that protects our patients’ access to abortion care in the face of unnecessary and unscientific restrictions from state legislatures and uncertain protection in the courts. We continue to advocate for access to abortion care without medically unnecessary restrictions and urge Congress to pass the WHPA.”

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About SMFM

The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) is a non-profit, membership organization based in Washington, DC. With more than 5,000 physicians, scientists and health professionals around the world, the Society supports the clinical practice of maternal-fetal medicine by providing education, promoting research, and engaging in advocacy to optimize the health of high-risk pregnant people and their babies. SMFM hosts an annual scientific meeting in which new ideas and research related to high-risk pregnancies are unveiled and discussed. For more information, visit SMFM.org