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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Legal Aid Statement in Response to Ruling in United States v. Skrametti

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in [United States v. Skrametti](#) which upholds a Tennessee state law banning gender-affirming care for minors:

"Today, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its ruling in *United States v. Skrametti*, upholding a Tennessee state law banning gender-affirming care for minors.

"This is a devastating blow to transgender rights and a dangerous step backward for health care access nationwide. The Supreme Court's ruling not only ignores the overwhelming consensus of medical experts who affirm that gender-affirming care is safe, essential, and often life-saving—it also wrongly inserts politics into deeply personal medical decisions. Trans youth, alongside their families and doctors, deserve the right to determine the care that is right for them without government interference.

"While this ruling does not change the law in New York—where transgender youth can still access transition-related care as a result of [litigation brought by The Legal Aid Society](#)—we know that today's decision sends a chilling message. It will also bring transgender youth and their families from states that ban gender-affirming care to New York. We urge Governor Hochul to sign Shield Law 2.0 (S.4914-B/A.5480-C), which ensures that New York will not be complicit in efforts to criminalize bodily autonomy or health care grounded in science, dignity, and equality.

"We categorically stand with trans youth and their families and will continue to fight to protect access to this critical care and the broader right to live freely, safely, and with dignity."

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The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For nearly 150 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. www.legalaidnyc.org

