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

***Statement on Assembly Passage of Legislation Strengthening New York's
Protections for Reproductive and Gender-Affirming Health Care***

(ALBANY, NY) – The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to the New York State Assembly passing [legislation](#) that protects individuals who provide or receive legally protected health care, including reproductive and gender-affirming care, from criminal or civil liability or professional sanctions imposed by jurisdictions outside the state:

“The Legal Aid Society applauds the New York State Assembly for passing A5480C, landmark legislation that strengthens New York’s protections for those providing or receiving reproductive health care and gender-affirming care. In the face of mounting attacks across the country from the Trump Administration, this bill sends a powerful and unequivocal message: New York will not be complicit in efforts to criminalize bodily autonomy or health care grounded in science, dignity, and equality.

“This measure provides urgently needed safeguards for patients, providers, and supporters by ensuring they are not vulnerable to out-of-state prosecutions, subpoenas, or professional sanctions. It fortifies our legal and health systems against interference from hostile jurisdictions and ensures that access to essential, life-saving care remains protected in our state.

“We now call on Governor Kathy Hochul to swiftly sign A5480C into law and affirm our commitment to protecting human rights, public health, and the safety of all who seek or provide care in New York. The threats are real, the consequences are grave, and the time to act is now.”

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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

