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

***Statement on New York State Legislature Transmitting Landmark Health Care Protections Bill to Governor Hochul for Consideration***

***Attorneys Urge Governor Hochul to Enact Critical Protections for Patients and Providers Facing Out-of-State Legal Threats***

(ALBANY, NY) – The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to the New York State Legislature transmitting [legislation](#) to Governor Kathy Hochul for consideration that would protect individuals who provide or receive legally protected health care from criminal or civil liability or professional sanctions imposed by jurisdictions outside the state:

“With this landmark legislation now transmitted by the Legislature to Governor Hochul for consideration, New York is poised to strengthen its protections for those who provide or receive reproductive and gender-affirming health care. In the face of mounting attacks across the country — including 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 helps ensure that access to essential, life-saving care remains protected in our state.

“We now call on Governor Kathy Hochul to swiftly sign S04914B/A5480B into law and affirm New York’s commitment to protecting human rights, public health, and the safety of all who seek or provide care here. 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](http://www.legalaidnyc.org)*