



June 28, 2021

Esteemed Members of Congress:

As over 300 Jewish clergy leaders from 38 states and the District of Columbia representing all major Jewish denominations, we write today to mark a reproductive health milestone, and to urge you to create the next one. Five years ago, the Supreme Court decided *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*, further cementing the right to access abortion and declaring medically unnecessary barriers to care unconstitutional. Today, we encourage you to support legislation that will ensure that all people—regardless of race, income, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or geography—are able to access abortion services.

For more than four decades, the United States has prevented women, girls, and LGBTQI+ people—particularly those who are Black and Brown—from receiving the health care services that they want and need. And over the last four years, we have witnessed increasing attacks on abortion access, both at home and abroad. However, as President Biden laid out in his Memorandum on Protecting Women's Health at Home and Abroad, it is the policy of the United States to support sexual and reproductive health and rights in the United States and worldwide. It is now time for Members of Congress to stand up for abortion access by repealing the Hyde and Helms Amendments to secure these human rights for all people.

Reproductive freedom is a Jewish value. Our tradition not only permits the termination of pregnancy, but even requires it when the life of the pregnant person is at stake. *Pikuach nefesh*—saving lives— and *kavod habriyot*—upholding human dignity—are key principles in our tradition, and we are called to make our society safer and more just for all.

As we celebrate the anniversary of *Whole Woman's Health*, we recognize that the legal right to abortion means nothing without on-the-ground access to care, and that abortion must be affordable and available to anyone who seeks it. However, the Hyde Amendment and related coverage bans have pushed care out of reach due to cost for over forty years, disproportionately harming those struggling to make ends meet; Black, Indigenous, and people of color; immigrants; young people; and LGBTQI+ people. The Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance (EACH) Act (H.R. 2234) would lift this ban, mandating coverage of all pregnancy-related care, including abortion, in federal health plans and programs while prohibiting political interference with the decisions of private health insurance companies to offer abortion coverage.

Much like the Hyde Amendment, the Helms Amendment prevents U.S. foreign assistance funds from being used to support abortion services overseas. It reduces the availability of safe, legal abortion; denies health-care providers life-saving equipment and training; and censors critical health information, putting

the lives of women, girls, and LGBTQI+ people at risk around the globe. The Abortion is Health Care Everywhere Act (AHCEA, H.R. 1670) would permanently repeal the Helms Amendment, ensuring that U.S. foreign assistance promotes comprehensive access to all sexual and reproductive health care services, including abortion.

The Hyde and Helms Amendments are immoral and unjust. As Jewish religious leaders, we ask that you do all that you can to support and advance legislation that would permanently repeal harmful policies that prevent people from accessing abortion services that they want and need domestically and globally. **We call on you to cosponsor the EACH Act (H.R. 2234) and the Abortion is Health Care Everywhere Act (H.R. 1670) and to push for passage of these bills .** No one—regardless of who they are, whom they love, or where they live—should be denied access to health care.

As Jews, we have a religious obligation to fight for justice. We hope that you, whether you are motivated by your heritage, beliefs or background, see the moral imperative to fight for reproductive rights and justice.

Please help make EACH and AHCEA the next major milestones in reproductive freedom.

Sincerely,

329 undersigned Jewish clergy members

Cantor Jill Abramson

White Plains, New York

Rabbi Jaime Aklepi

Miami, Florida

Rabbi Ruth Abusch-Magder

Atlanta, Georgia

Cantor Sheri Allen

Fort Worth, Texas

Rabbi Rachel Ackerman

Washington, District of Columbia

Rabbi Doug Alpert

Kansas City, Missouri

Rabbi Ruth Adar

San Leandro, California

Rabbi Renni Altman

Poughkeepsie, New York

Rabbi David Adelson

New York, New York

Cantor Dana Anesi

White Plains, New York

Rabbi Batsheva Appel

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Rabbi Melanie Aron

Los Gatos, California

Rabbi Daniel Aronson

Keene, New Hampshire

Rabbi Caryn Aviv

Denver, Colorado

Rabbi Craig Axler

Clarksville, Maryland

Rabbi Rachel Barenblat

Williamstown, Massachusetts

Rabbi Robert Barr

Loveland, Ohio

Rabbi Eliot Baskin

Greenwood Village, Colorado

Cantor Heather Batchelor

Glen Ridge, New Jersey

Rabbi David Baum

Boca Raton, Florida

Rabbi Philip Bazeley

New Brunswick, New Jersey

Rabbi Roberta Becker

Centennial, Colorado

Cantor Chanin Becker

Tarrytown, New York

Rabbi Shelley Kovar Becker

New York, New York

Rabbi Martin Beifield

Richmond, Virginia

Rabbi Lisa Bellows

Glenview, Illinois

Rabbi Alfred Benjamin

Milton, Massachusetts

Rabbi Leah Berkowitz

Elkins Park, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Donald Berlin

Bethesda, Maryland

Cantor Julie Berlin

San Antonio, Texas

Rabbi Sarah Berman

New York, New York

Rabbi Phyllis Berman

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Marjorie Berman

Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania

Cantor Sharon Bernstein

San Francisco, California

Rabbi Amy Bernstein

Pacific Palisades, California

Rabbi Dahlia Bernstein

Bellmore, New York

Cantor Jennifer Bern-Vogel

Los Angeles, California

Rabbi Binyamin Biber

Silver Spring, Maryland

Rabbi Amy Bigman

East Lansing, Michigan

Rabbi Joe Blair

Chalreston, West Virginia

Rabbi Barry Block

Little Rock, Arkansas

Rabbi Rena Blumenthal

New Paltz, New York

Rabbi Lisa Bock

Westlake Village, California

Rabbi Jill Borodin

Seattle, Washington

Rabbi Rick Brody

Denver, Colorado

Cantor Vera Broekhuysen

North Andover, Massachusetts

Rabbi Deborah Bronstein

Boulder, Colorado

Rabbi Ayelet Cohen

New York, New York

Rabbi Jeffrey Brown

Scarsdale, New York

Rabbi Judy Cohen-Rosenberg

Jericho, New York

Rabbi Rachel Brown

Beachwood, Ohio

Rabbi Hillel Cohn

San Bernardino, California

Cantor Scott Buckner

Manchester Center, Vermont

Hazzan Sanford Cohn

West Hartford, Connecticut

Rabbi Melissa Buyer-Witman

New York City, New York

Rabbi Neil Comess-Daniels

Los Angeles, California

Rabbi Meredith Cahn

Petaluma, California

Rabbi David J. Cooper

Berkeley, California

Rabbi Debra Cantor

Bloomfield, Connecticut

Rabbi Meryl Crean

Lansdale, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Michael Cohen

Manchester Center, Vermont

Rabbi Eric Cytryn

Chicago, Illinois

Rabbi Howard Cohen

Bennington, Vermont

Rabbi Robin Damsky

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz

Cupertino, California

Cantor Harriet Dunkerley

Wilton, Connecticut

Rabbi Harry Danziger

Germantown, Tennessee

Rabbi Elizabeth Dunsker

Vancouver, Washington

Rabbi Beth D. Davidson

Manchester, New Hampshire

Rabbi David Eber

Evanston, Illinois

Rabbi Nate DeGroot

Detroit, Michigan

Rabbi Judith Edelstein

New York, New York

Rabbi Fred Scherlinder Dobb

Washington, District of Columbia

Rabbi Lisa Edwards

Los Angeles, California

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Rabbi Laurence Edwards

Chicago, Illinois

Rabbi Barry Dolinger

Pawtucket, Rhode Island

Rabbi Denise Eger

West Hollywood, California

Rabbi Wayne Dosick

Carlsbad, California

Rabbi Amy Eilberg

Los Altos, California

Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus

Homewood, Illinois

Rabbi David Eligberg

Albany, New York

Rabbi Dov Elkins
Princeton, New Jersey

Rabbi Leah Fein
New York, New York

Rabbi Barat Ellman
Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Michael Feinberg
New York, New York

Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Fern Feldman
Seattle, Washington

Rabbi David Englander
Boca Raton, Florida

Rabbi Michael Fessler
Poughkeepsie, New York

Hazzan Estelle Epstein
Teaneck, New Jersey

Rabbi Brian Field
Denver, Colorado

Rabbi Andrew Ettin
Pfafftown, North Carolina

Cantor Alisa Fineman
Aromas, California

Rabbi Susan Falk
Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Robyn Fisher
Miami, Florida

Rabbi Michael Farbman
Orange, Connecticut

Rabbi Nancy Flam
Northampton, Massachusetts

Rabbi Amy Feder
Saint Louis, Missouri

Rabbi Allison Flash
Newcastle, Washington

Rabbi Andi Fliegel

West Hartford, Connecticut

Rabbi Steven Foster

Denver, Colorado

Rabbi Samantha Frank

Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Eli Freedman

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Alan Freedman

Austin, Texas

Rabbi Pam Frydman

Redwood City, California

Hazzan Marlana Fuerstman

Bethlehem, New Hampshire

Rabbi Laura Geller

Los Angeles, California

Rabbi Jordie Gerson

Greenwich, Connecticut

Rabbi James Gibson

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Sara Gilbert

Denver, Colorado

Rabbi Josh Gischner

Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Carol Glass

Newton, Massachusetts

Rabbi Elisa Goldberg

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Irwin Goldenberg

Forest Hills, New York

Rabbi Rachel Goldenberg

Jackson Heights, New York

Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell

Binghamton, New York

Rabbi Andrea Goldstein

Olivette, Missouri

Rabbi Elizabeth Goldstein

Vienna, Virginia

Rabbi Jennifer Greenspan

Indianapolis, Indiana

Rabbi Felipe Goodman

Las Vegas, Nevada

Rabbi Nicki Greninger

Lafayette, California

Rabbi Linda Henry Goodman

Garden City, New York

Rabbi Suzanne Griffel

Chicago, Illinois

Rabbi Keren Gorban

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Steven Gross

Houston, Texas

Rabbi Maralee Gordon

Woodstock, Illinois

Rabbi Salomon Gruenwald

Denver, Colorado

Rabbi Fred Greene

Erie, Colorado

Rabbi Rachel Gurevitz

Westborough, Massachusetts

Rabbi James Greene

Stafford Springs, Connecticut

Rabbi Tom Gutherz

Charlottesville, Virginia

Rabbi Amanda Greene

Chicago, Illinois

Rabbi Kim Harris

Littleton, Colorado

Rabbi Lisa Greene

Evanston, Illinois

Rabbi Alicia Harris

Royal Oak, Michigan

Rabbi Jill Hausman

New York, New York

Rabbi Mark Hurvitz

New York, New York

Rabbi Jonathan Hecht

Cincinnati, Ohio

Rabbi Debbie Israel

Watsonville, California

Rabbi Corey Helfand

Foster City, California

Rabbi Marci Jacobs

Pikesville, Maryland

Rabbi Lauren Herrmann

New York, New York

Rabbi Suzie Jacobson

Boston, Massachusetts

Rabbi Miriam Herscher

New York, New York

Rabbi Jennifer Jaech

Croton-on-Hudson, New York

Rabbi Rachel Hertzman

New York, New York

Rabbi Marisa James

New York, New York

Cantor Sharon Hordes

Louisville, Kentucky

Rabbi Rachel Kahn-Troster

Teaneck, New Jersey

Rabbi Daniel Horwitz

Houston, Texas

Rabbi Dan Kaiman

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Rabbi Margo Hughes-Robinson

Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Mark Kaiserman

Forest Hills, New York

Rabbi Beth Kalisch

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Aurora Katz

Baltimore, Maryland

Rabbi Debra Newman Kamin

Highland Park, Illinois

Rabbi David Kay

Orlando, Florida

Rabbi Lewis Kamrass

Cincinnati, Ohio

Rabbi Justin Kerber

Carmel, Indiana

Rabbi Min Kantrowitz

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Cantor Penny Kessler

Bethel, Connecticut

Rabbi Karen Kaplan

Kearny, New Jersey

Cantor Sara Kheel

Vero Beach, Florida

Rabbi Juliana S. Karol

New York, New York

Rabbi Paul Kipnes

Tarzana, California

Rabbi Stephen Karol

Port Jefferson Station, New York

Rabbi Emma Kippley-Ogman

Saint Paul, Minnesota

Rabbi Peter Kasdan

Longboat Key, Florida

Rabbi David Klatzker

Natick, Massachusetts

Rabbi Nancy Kasten

Dallas, Texas

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum

New York, New York

Rabbi Robert Klensin

Augusta, Georgia

Rabbi Michael Knopf

Richmond, Virginia

Rabbi Debra Kolodny

Portland, Oregon

Rabbi Sharon Korn

Lake Worth, Florida

Rabbi Douglas Krantz

Townsend, Delaware

Rabbi Marc Kraus

Virginia Beach, Virginia

Rabbi Alex Kress

Los Angeles, California

Rabbi Jeremy Kridel

Ellicott City, Maryland

Rabbi Judith Kummer

Boston, Massachusetts

Rabbi Paul Kurland

Nanuet, New York

Rabbi Gail Labovitz

Los Angeles, California

Rabbi Enid Lader

Cleveland, Ohio

Rabbi Susan Laemmle

Los Angeles, California

Rabbi Martin Lawson

San Diego, California

Rabbi Michele Lenke

Sherman Oaks, California

Rabbi Darah Lerner

Bangor, Maine

Rabbi Joshua Lesser

Atlanta, Georgia

Cantor Alison Levine

Huntington, New York

Rabbi Jason Levine

Seattle, Washington

Rabbi David Levy

Scarsdale, New York

Rabbi Kelly Levy

Austin, Texas

Hazzan David Lipp

Louisville, Kentucky

Rabbi Daveen Litwin

Hanover, New Hampshire

Rabbi David Locketz

Minnetonka, Minnesota

Rabbi Alan Londy

Kansas City, Missouri

Rabbi Ari Lorge

New York, New York

Rabbi David Maharam

Lansdale, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Devorah Marcus

San Diego, California

Rabbi Sarah Marion

Bridgeport, Connecticut

Rabbi Richard Marker

Bethesda, Maryland

Rabbi Jeffrey Marker

Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Susan Marks

Sarasota, Florida

Rabbi Bernard H. Mehlman

Brookline, Massachusetts

Rabbi Batsheva Meiri

Asheville, North Carolina

Rabbi Amy Memis-Foler

Skokie, Illinois

Rabbi Myra Meskin

Fishers, Indiana

Rabbi Ellie Miller

Morristown, New Jersey

Cantor Barbara Ostfeld

Williamsville, New York

Rabbi Josh Minkin

Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Laura Owens

Los Angeles, California

Rabbi Nina Mizrahi

Northbrook, Illinois

Rabbi Lee Paskind

Teaneck, New Jersey

Cantor Sarah Myerson

Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Rachael Pass

Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Beth Naditch

Newton, Massachusetts

Rabbi Salem Pearce

Durham, North Carolina

Rabbi Gail Nalven

New York, New York

Rabbi Allison Peiser

Marblehead, Massachusetts

Rabbi Mara Nathan

San Antonio, Texas

Rabbi Barbara Penzner

West Roxbury, Massachusetts

Rabbi Sheryl Nosan-Blank

El Cajon, California

Rabbi Jill Perlman

Moraga, California

Rabbi Suzanne Offit

Newton, Massachusetts

Rabbi Jay Perlman

Needham, Massachusetts

Rabbi Stacy Petersohn

Fremont, California

Rabbi Ruti Regan

Somerville, Massachusetts

Rabbi Dr. Adele Plotkin

Chino Valley, Arizona

Rabbi Philip Rice

Brentwood, Tennessee

Rabbi Sam Pollak

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Rabbi Dorothy Richman

Albany, California

Rabbi Gayle Pomerantz

Miami Beach, Florida

Rabbi Ken Richmond

Natick, Massachusetts

Rabbi Mindy Portnoy

Kensington, Maryland

Rabbi Rena Rifkin

New York, New York

Rabbi Eve Posen

Portland, Oregon

Cantor Jen Roher

Columbus, Ohio

Cantor Sam Radwine

Rogers, Arkansas

Rabbi Yael Romer

Kingston, New York

Rabbi Debra Rappaport

Golden Valley, Minnesota

Rabbi Jennie Rosenn

New York, New York

Rabbi Esther Reed

Highland Park, New Jersey

Rabbi Cheryl Rosenstein

Santa Rosa, California

Rabbi Michael Rothbaum

Acton, Massachusetts

Rabbi Sandy Rubenstein

Silver Spring, Maryland

Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg

Evanston, Illinois

Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz

Olympia, Washington

Cantor Pamela Sawyer

Berkeley, California

Rabbi Ilana Schachter

Roslyn, New York

Rabbi Peter Schaktman

Utica, New York

Rabbi Samantha Schapera

Cincinnati, Ohio

Rabbi Martin Scharf

Scottsdale, Arizona

Cantor Robert Scherr

Alexandria, Virginia

Rabbi Simone Schicker

Kalamazoo, Michigan

Rabbi Janine Schloss

Saint Louis, Missouri

Rabbi Amanda Schwartz

Denver, Colorado

Rabbi Larry Sebert

New York, New York

Rabbi Ahud Sela

Granada Hills, California

Rabbi Isaac Serotta

Deerfield, Illinois

Rabbi Scott Shafrin

Saint Louis, Missouri

Rabbi Jaimee Shalhevet

Syosset, New York

Rabbi Judy Shanks

Oakland, California

Rabbi Linda Shriner-Cahn

Bronx, New York

Rabbi Andy Shugerman

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Hanna Tiferet Siegel

Victoria, Massachusetts

Rabbi Steven Silberman

Mobile, Alabama

Rabbi Joel Simon

Tampa, Florida

Rabbi Melissa Simon

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Rabbi Jeremy Simons

Memphis, Tennessee

Rabbi Suzanne Singer

Riverside, California

Rabbi Michael Singer

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Lynn Brody Slome

Beverly Hills, California

Rabbi Severine Sokol

Newport News, Virginia

Rabbi Lily Solochek

Nobleboro, Maine

Rabbi Idit Solomon

Palo Alto, California

Rabbi Howard Sommer

Guilford, Connecticut

Rabbi Scott Sperling

Decatur, Georgia

Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker

Saint Paul, Minnesota

Rabbi Jonathan Spira-Savett

Nashua, New Hampshire

Rabbi Joshua Stanton

New York, New York

Rabbi Jeffrey Stiffman

Saint Louis, Missouri

Rabbi Margot Stein

Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Joshua Strom

Armonk, New York

Rabbi Paul Steinberg

San Rafael, California

Rabbi Robert Tabak

Elkins Park, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Gershon Steinberg-Caudill

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Rabbi Susan Talve

Saint Louis, Missouri

Rabbi Lane Steinger

Saint Louis, Missouri

Rabbi Faith Tessler

Tarzana, California

Rabbi Oren Steinitz

Elmira, New York

Rabbi David Teutsch

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Eleanor Steinman

Austin, Texas

Cantor Louise Treitman

Lexington, Massachusetts

Rabbi Rebekah Stern

Berkeley, California

Rabbi Rochelle Tulik

Rochester, New York

Rabbi Kaya Stern-Kaufman

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Rabbi Victor Urecki

Charleston, West Virginia

Rabbi Burt Visotzky

New York, New York

Rabbi Molly Weisel

Bellevue, Washington

Rabbi Arthur Waskow

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Greg Weisman

Boca Raton, Florida

Rabbi Sue Wasserman

Waltham, Massachusetts

Rabbi Max Weiss

Oak Park, Illinois

Rabbi Pamela Wax

North Adams, Massachusetts

Rabbi Zari Weiss

Seattle, Washington

Rabbi Deborah Waxman

Wyncote, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Sarah Weissman

Redwood City, California

Rabbi Elyse Wechterman

Abington, Pennsylvania

Rabbi Alex Weissman

Providence, Rhode Island

Rabbi Jennifer Weiner

Springfield, Virginia

Rabbi Ariann Weitzman

West Orange, New Jersey

Rabbi Daniel Weiner

Seattle, Washington

Rabbi Josh Whinston

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Rabbi Simkha Y. Weintraub

Brooklyn, New York

Rabbi Jeremy Winaker

Wilmington, Delaware

Rabbi Elyse Winick

Newton, Massachusetts

Rabbi Mara Young

Hartsdale, New York

Rabbi David Wirtschafter

Lexington, Kentucky

Rabbi Sara Zacharia

New York, New York

Cantor Josee Wolff

New York, New York

Rabbi Mary Zamore

Westfield, New Jersey

Rabbi Michal Woll

Shorewood, Wisconsin

Rabbi Benjamin Zober

Reno, Nevada

Rabbi Marina Yergin

San Antonio, Texas

Rabbi Sara Zober

Reno, Nevada

Rabbi Adir Yolkut

White Plains, New York

Cantor Michael Zoosman

College Park, Maryland