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March 3, 2023

Dear Governor Spencer Cox:

We urge you to veto H.B.467, a bill that further restricts the ability of Utahns to obtain abortion care. The ACLU of Utah is deeply concerned about the restrictions this bill places on the right of Utahns to decide if and when to have a child and the diminished availability of safe and affordable healthcare that could result if this bill were to become law.

The ACLU of Utah believes that every person can make the best decision for themselves and their family about whether and when to have a child without undue political interference. This bill continues the Utah Legislature's attack this session on the right of Utahns to their own bodily autonomy. Every person deserves to access the critical care they need, but this bill pushes essential abortion care out of reach.

As you know, the ACLU of Utah and Planned Parenthood Association of Utah are currently challenging abortion restrictions that took effect in 2022 that violate several rights guaranteed by the Utah Constitution. Instead of waiting for the judiciary to opine on the constitutionality of these already extreme restrictions on abortion care in Utah, H.B.467 pushes those restrictions even further by eliminating licensing of abortion clinics and limiting exceptions.

We have stated loudly and repeatedly during this Legislative Session that healthcare decisions should be between the patient, their family, and medical professionals, not politicians. Because H.B.467 will compromise access to critical health care and violate the rights of Utah families, you should veto it.

Sincerely,

Brittney Nystrom Executive Director ACLU of Utah

CC: Lt. Governor Deidre Henderson Jennifer Napier-Pearce Neil Abercrombie