



SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: PRESIDENT@WHITEHOUSE.GOV

May 6, 2022

Hon. Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As the elected City Attorney of the nation's second largest city, and the co-founder and past co-chair of the nonpartisan national coalition Prosecutors Against Gun Violence, I've been honored to meet you at the White House and was privileged to be invited to join with you recently when you announced federal action to combat gun violence tied to ghost guns. Although I was unable to attend because I was recuperating from COVID, I continue to applaud your leadership on this and so many pivotal issues—and your recognition of the essential role local leaders can play in a crisis.

I write to focus on another national crisis that requires immediate, robust coordination among local, state and federal officials: the impact on women's rights from the expected Supreme Court decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

This decision will create a national emergency for which we must prepare now. Twenty-six states will completely ban women's ability to obtain safe and legal abortion, forcing tens of thousands of women suddenly to carry unwanted pregnancies to term, turn to other venues to receive the medical care they deserve, or resort to unsafe procedures that could jeopardize their health and safety.

I propose that your Administration immediately convene a Presidential Task Force for Women's Medical Freedom to establish and implement strategies for supporting women and girls in their time of need.

The Task Force, on which I would volunteer to serve, could consist of leaders and experts at the local, state and national levels, and address issues like these:

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- Expanding clinic capacity in states where abortion remains legal;
- Coordinating logistics and funding to provide housing and transportation for women and girls who must travel long distances to other states to obtain safe and legal abortions;
- Funding and staffing legal defense efforts for women, providers and others targeted by so-called bounty laws in states outlawing abortion;
- Protecting medical providers in states where abortion is legal who should be able to consult remotely with patients without fear of prosecution or lawsuits;
- Expanding and securing the right to mail and receive abortion medications across state lines, regardless of the age of the patient; and
- Providing resettlement support for women and girls who flee states where abortion is prohibited and fear legal repercussions if they were to return home.

As I write this, states like California and Connecticut already are working on laws to strengthen abortion access and protection. In addition, some corporations are standing up to offer assistance to their workers who must travel to other states to obtain abortions. But what if you don't live in California or work for such a company?

It is not hyperbolic to compare the coming storm to the division in America over slavery 170 years ago. Abraham Lincoln famously said, "Our country cannot survive half slave and half free." Today, with our nation already riven with division, it is not just or humane to abolish the fundamental rights of women and girls in half the states in America merely because of where they live. Those women and girls need us now.

I stand ready to help in this vital effort in any way I can.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Feuer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

MICHAEL N. FEUER
Los Angeles City Attorney