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## ONE YEAR POST DOBBS - NEW YORK HAS REGRESSED, FEMINISTS ARGUE

Rochester, NY— Saturday, June 24th commemorates the one year anniversary of *Dobbs* v *Jackson* (2022), the US Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe v. Wade* (1973). One year ago, US citizens eagerly anticipated the response of individual states regarding abortion regulation following the transition of power. While many states have banned or more strictly regulated abortion, New York has continued to promote abortion supportive policies, having <u>enacted</u> and <u>funded</u> a slew of laws that expand and protect the procedure, including for women out-of-state.

Feminists Choosing Life of New York (FCLNY), a human rights organization that educates on the consistent life ethic, issues the following commentary:

"Pro-life feminists applaud *Dobbs* for nullifying *Roe*, one of the most a-historical US Supreme Court cases in US history, a decision that was always out of step with <u>public opinion</u> as well as history," states Michele Sterlace, JD, LLM, Executive Director of FCLNY. "Abortion on demand throughout all nine months of pregnancy has never been the majority opinion in the US," adds Sterlace. "This is the abortion right, *Roe*, along with its companion case, *Doe vs. Bolton* (410 US 179), served up to women in 1973 and which NY still embraces," states Emily Cappello, FCLNY's Grassroots Outreach Coordinator. Cappello adds, "Under the Reproductive Health Act, the NY law that 'codified' *Roe* shortly before the *Dobbs* decision, a woman can obtain a third trimester abortion for reasons completely unrelated to her physical health or the health of her unborn child."

"It is beyond disheartening to see a state claiming to be 'progressive' continue to ignore science and push regressive abortion laws, while failing to help vulnerable communities and neglecting to address abortion's root causes, including poverty and the lack of support," says Sterlace.

"Science is not what it was in 1973. Seismic advances in biology, genetics, embryogenesis, perinatology and multidimensional Doppler sonography show that <u>pregnancy</u> involves a separate, unique and distinct human being, other than the pregnant mother, beginning at fertilization," says Cappello.

"On the eve of the one year anniversary of Roe's overturn, pro-choice special interests in NY are celebrating the passage of yet another abortion expansion

bill, a <u>Telehealth Protection</u> law that incentivizes the flow of abortion pills to women who live in anti-abortion states," says Sterlace. "Instead, New Yorkers should be celebrating the passage of bills the legislature chose to ignore in favor of the Telehealth Protection bill, measures aimed at reducing maternal and infant mortality and morbidity (Doula Directory <u>S.1867, A.05435</u>) and economic insecurity (Working Families Tax Credit <u>S.277A, A.04022A</u>), and at increasing affordable and accessible child care (Affordable Child Care Study <u>A.01852</u>) and tangible necessities for poor families (Diaper Allowance <u>S.1210, A.02872</u>).

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