

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT
MAYOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2022-3

Chicago as a Safe Haven for Reproductive Rights

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois provides a guarantee of the fundamental rights of individuals to make autonomous decisions about one's own reproductive health independent of, and more expansive than, any protection provided by the Constitution of the United States, and the City of Chicago has long ensured that access to reproductive health care remains readily available in the City; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois General Assembly has in recent years implemented additional measures to protect fundamental reproductive health rights and to provide for continued access to reproductive health care, even while other States have adopted laws that drastically limit or prohibit access to such reproductive health care, which together may lead more individuals to seek reproductive health care from health care professionals in the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, other States and jurisdictions may adopt or may expand laws that purport to impose civil or criminal liability or professional sanctions on health care professionals who provide and persons who seek and receive, or assist with the provision or receipt of, reproductive health care in the City of Chicago as permitted by the laws of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, health care professionals lawfully providing and persons lawfully seeking and receiving, or assisting with the provision or receipt of, reproductive health care in the City of Chicago should be protected from attempts to impose legal liability premised on and professional sanctions issued under the laws of other States when that reproductive health care is lawful in the State of Illinois and meets standards for good professional practice; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Reproductive Health Act (775 ILCS 55/1-1 et seq.) provides that a unit of local government may enact ordinances, standards, rules, or regulations that protect an individual's ability to freely exercise the fundamental rights to make autonomous decisions about the individual's own reproductive health, including the fundamental right to receive or refuse reproductive health care, and to continue a pregnancy and give birth or to have an abortion, and to make autonomous decisions about how to exercise that right, in a manner or to an extent equal to or greater than the protection provided by the Reproductive Health Act; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to exercise the executive authority vested in my office, including the authority to supervise the conduct of all officers of the City, to protect health care professionals and persons lawfully seeking and receiving reproductive health care in the City of Chicago; now, therefore,

I, LORI E. LIGHTFOOT, Mayor of the City of Chicago, do hereby order as follows:

- 1. Except as required by statute, regulation, order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or lawfully issued judicial warrant of a court of competent jurisdiction, no Agent or Agency may respond to any inquiry or request for information related to, or in furtherance of, any investigation or proceeding initiated in or by another State or jurisdiction that is empowered to impose civil or criminal liability or professional sanctions upon a person or entity for:
 - (a) the provision or receipt of, or any inquiry concerning, reproductive health care that is legal in the State of Illinois; or
 - (b) any assistance given to any person or entity that relates to the provision or receipt of, or any inquiry concerning, reproductive health care that is legal in the State of Illinois.
- 2. Except as required by statute, regulation, order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or lawfully issued judicial warrant of a court of competent jurisdiction, an Agent or Agency shall decline any request received from an authority representing or located in any other State or jurisdiction to stop, arrest, detain, continue to detain, or transfer into out-of-State custody any person charged with a criminal violation of a law of that other State or jurisdiction where the violation alleged involves the provision or receipt of, or assistance with the provision or receipt of, reproductive health care unless the acts forming the basis of the prosecution of the crime charged would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of the State of Illinois.
- 3. For purposes of this Executive Order, the following definitions shall apply:

"Agency" means every City of Chicago department, including, but not limited to the Chicago Police Department and the Chicago Department of Public Health, agency, division, commission, council, committee, board, or other body or person established by authority of a City of Chicago ordinance or resolution, City Council order, or executive order.

"Agent" means any person employed by or acting on behalf of an Agency.

"Reproductive health care" means health care offered, arranged, or furnished for the purpose of preventing pregnancy, terminating a pregnancy, managing pregnancy loss, or improving maternal health and birth outcomes. Reproductive health care includes but is not limited to contraception, sterilization, preconception care, maternity care, abortion care, and counseling regarding reproductive health care.

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This Executive Order shall take effect upon its execution and filing with the City Clerk.

Mu Mayor

Received and filed July 28, 2022

City Clerk