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AAPCHO Condemns Supreme Court Decision on Dobbs v. Jackson's Women's Health Organization

WASHINGTON – Today, the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) issued the following statement on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to strike down legal protections on abortion access and allow state governments to decide whether abortion access would be legal in their state. This decision limits access for at least 26 states and territories, leaving almost 40 million women without reproductive care, and exacerbating the barriers to health for many, especially for communities of color like Asian Americans (AAs), Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (NH/PIs), immigrants, and lower-income communities.

Jeffrey B. Caballero, executive director of AAPCHO, said:

"Accessible and safe health care, including reproductive care, is a human right. Today's Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe* is dangerous and sets an unacceptable precedent of government interference in the most private discussions between a patient and their health care provider. Limiting access to reproductive care and striking down the constitutional right to abortion that has been law for nearly a century jeopardizes a patient's health and threatens health care providers' ability to give informed health care to their patients. It will also reinforce obstacles for communities that already face barriers to care, including Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. AAPCHO condemns this decision and will continue to work with our members and partners to ensure that all people can get the health care they need. We call on elected leaders at all levels to pass laws that protect reproductive justice and equitable access to health care for all."

About AAPCHO

AAPCHO is a national association of community health organizations dedicated to promoting advocacy, collaboration and leadership that improves the health status and access of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in the United States, the U.S. territories, and Freely Associated States. For more information on AAPCHO, please visit <u>www.aapcho.org</u>.

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