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To: House Committee on Health Care

Re: S.37 – An act related to access to legally protected healthcare

From: The Office of the Health Care Advocate

Date: April 5th, 2023

Dear Chair Houghton and Members of the House Committee on Health Care:

The Office of the Health Care Advocate (HCA) would like to express its support for the proposed bill: S.37 – An act related to access to legally protected healthcare. This proposal establishes important protections for Vermonters and Vermont healthcare providers. It is vitally important to ensure that legally protected health care activities are not threatened by decision makers from other states and Vermonters have appropriate access to reproductive and gender-affirming care.

Thank you for your consideration and continued leadership in this important area.

Sincerely,

s\ Mike Fisher, Chief Health Care Advocate

s\ Sam Peisch, Health Policy Analyst