

March 14, 2023

**Karen S. Lynch**  
**President & CEO**  
**CVS**

1 CVS Drive  
Woonsocket, RI 02895

**Elizabeth Burr**  
**Interim CEO**  
**Rite-Aid**  
1200 Intrepid Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19112

**Doug McMillon**  
**President & CEO**  
**Walmart**  
702 S.W. 8th Street  
Bentonville, AK 72716

**Matthew Gutermouth**  
**CEO**  
**Safeway**  
5918 Stoneridge Mall Road  
Pleasanton, CA 94588

**Rodney McMullen**  
**Chairman & CEO**  
**Kroger**  
1014 Vine Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

**Craig Jelinek**  
**CEO**  
**Costco**  
999 Lake Drive  
Issaquah, WA 98027

**Eyad Farah**  
**President**  
**Health Mart**  
1 Post Street  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Ms. Lynch, Ms. Burr, Mr. McMillon, Mr. Gutermouth, Mr. McMullen, Mr. Jelinek, and Mr. Farah:

We write in light of recent media reports indicating that some major pharmacy retail companies, faced with political pressure, may be considering not dispensing critical abortion medication to millions of individuals, including in states where medication abortion, like Mifepristone, can be lawfully dispensed. As you know, the FDA determined more than 20 years ago that Mifepristone is safe and effective, and as health care providers, we hope you will see this attempted interference in the private market for what it is: a threat to the rights of Americans to access basic healthcare. Thank you for carefully considering how you can help expand access to medication abortion in this country without further politicizing essential healthcare or preemptively backing away from providing care where that care is still legal.

We are deeply committed to protecting and expanding reproductive freedom and the health and well-being of all of our residents. As Governors of fourteen states, we not only represent over 141 million residents with a combined economy of over \$11 trillion, but we are also direct customers who have partnered with many of your companies for years on a variety of issues and initiatives. **We understand you are carefully reviewing the new Mifepristone certification process. We look forward to receiving your plans for dispensing Mifepristone in states where such care is legal, as well as any other actions you plan to take to safeguard access to reproductive healthcare.**

We will always put the rights of our people first and will continue to protect and defend their legal and necessary access to basic healthcare. As companies that dispense critical, life-saving medications, we urge that your decisions continue to be guided by well-established science and medical evidence and a commitment to the health and well-being of patients – not politics or litigation threats. The impact to people’s health and lives is too great to do otherwise.

Sincerely,

California Governor Gavin Newsom

Illinois Governor JB Pritzker

Maine Governor Janet Mills

Maryland Governor Wes Moore

Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey

Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz

North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy

New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

New York Governor Kathy Hochul

Oregon Governor Tina Kotek

Washington Governor Jay Inslee

Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers