

January 8, 2023

Dear Governor Hochul, Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, and State Senators:

As organizations, advocates, and scholars who work and write on issues of reproductive and gender justice, we are deeply troubled by the nomination of Justice Hector LaSalle to serve as Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals. At a moment when the federal courts have gutted rights to reproductive autonomy, New York's highest court should be a defender of New Yorkers' reproductive and gender freedoms, not an ally in their diminution. Given his record, which includes curtailing a New York Attorney General investigation into predatory crisis pregnancy centers — a key weapon of the anti-abortion movement — we have grave concerns for a Court of Appeals headed by Justice LaSalle.

We urge the New York Senate to reject his nomination and the Governor to nominate a jurist who will safeguard the rights of New Yorkers.

Respectfully,

A Better Balance

Abortion Access Front

ACCESS REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

Ancient Song Doula Services

Advocates for Youth

Birth In Color RVA

BKForge

Bx (Re)Birth and Progress Collective

Capital Area Relief & Liberation

Center for Disability Rights

Center for Popular Democracy

Center for Reproductive Rights Union

Close Rosie's

DOWNTOWN WOMEN FOR CHANGE

Elephant Circle

Girls for Gender Equity

Global Justice Center

Grandmothers for Reproductive Rights (GRR!)

If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice

Indigenous Women Rising

Jane's Due Process

Just The Pill

Know Your IX

Medical Students for Choice

Narrative Nation/IRTH App

National Abortion Federation

National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum

National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice

National Organization for Women

National Women's Health Network

National Women's Law Center

NYC for Abortion Rights

Plan C

Pregnancy Justice

Physicians for a National Health Program - NY Metro Chapter

Physicians for Reproductive Health

Reproaction

Reproductive Health Access Project

Right By You

Sésé, Birthing Freedom

The Sex Workers Project of the Urban Justice Center

SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective

State Innovation Exchange (SiX)

Thank God for Abortion

Third Wave Fund

Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund

UltraViolet

URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity

VOTEPROCHOICE

WESPAC Foundation, Inc.

Women's Law Project

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Columbia Law School

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New York University School of Law

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Carpenters Union Local 258

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Columbia University

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Union of Legal Workers for Trans Liberation, Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund

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(Individual signatories have signed on behalf of themselves, not necessarily their affiliated institution/organization.)