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ASPPH Statement on Supreme Court Draft Opinion

May 4, 2022– As the leading voice of academic public health, the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is concerned about the Supreme Court’s draft opinion regarding Roe v. Wade. ASPPH believes access to family planning services is an essential component of public health. Removing access to these services will significantly impact maternal health outcomes and increase maternal deaths in the United States, the only high-income country where the rate of maternal deaths is increasing. The potential impact of the Supreme Court’s draft decision would fall unequally on marginalized populations and exacerbate disparities and racial inequities in maternal health outcomes. Women from underserved and lower income populations are less likely to receive reproductive health services, more likely to experience maternal health complications, and experience higher maternal death rates. Prioritizing equal access to family planning services is essential to improving public health. The Supreme Court’s ruling is expected in the summer. ASPPH will be closely monitoring this decision.

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is a 501c3 membership organization located in Washington, DC. ASPPH’s mission is to strengthen the capacity of our member schools and programs by advancing leadership, excellence, and collaboration for academic public health. Our members are CEPH-accredited schools and programs of public health as well as schools and programs in applicant status for CEPH-accreditation.

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