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House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

PRESS RELEASE

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**Hirono Speaks Against Supreme Court Ruling Endangering Women's Health;
Announces Federal Freedom of Choice Act**

Washington, D.C. - Expressing dismay and alarm at yesterday's Supreme Court abortion ruling, Congresswoman Mazie K. Hirono today called for the passage of the Freedom of Choice Act to protect a woman's right to choose as provided under Roe v Wade.

During a press conference at the Capitol, Hirono joined other members of Congress in calling for the passage of this legislation, noting that yesterday's ruling upheld the first ever Federal ban on abortion which makes no exception for the health of the mother.

Hirono stated, "We thought a woman's right to choose was a constitutionally protected privacy right. Apparently, this Court doesn't think so. With this decision, the stage is set for overturning the landmark Roe v Wade decision which ensures that women have the right to choose. I am proud to say that Hawaii was the first state to legalize abortion, and that last year the Legislature took the additional step of passing our own Freedom of Choice Act. However, not all women live in states with such strong pro-choice laws. We need this federal legislation to protect those women."

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