Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization

Updates from the Office of MS Attorney General Lynn Fitch

March 2, 2023

The Empowerment Project

Friends,

It has been a little over a year since we asked the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold Mississippi's abortion laws and argued that we can both empower women and promote life. The Justices listened and we now have the opportunity to make good on this promise.

When asked how we overcame such a monumental challenge, I have repeatedly attributed the *Dobbs* victory to your commitment, dedication and willingness to work together for a common good. I am asking you to once again join me as we write a new chapter in American history - a chapter dedicated to respecting dignity for all lives.

Our laws must reflect the same compassion during and after pregnancy, and that is why I am launching The Empowerment Project.

The Empowerment Project is a policy initiative focused on empowering women and their families. Through this project, we hope to help families of all stages and phases by providing women with the opportunities to upskill, educate, and grow.

As a starting point, I have proposed a policy agenda that promotes workplace flexibility, makes quality childcare more affordable and accessible, reforms broken foster care and adoption systems, enhances child support enforcement, and supports mothers and their families.

This is an ambitious agenda, and we cannot do it alone. We need the help of lawmakers, advocacy groups, nonprofit organizations, business leaders, and, most importantly, YOU, the people.

This is your invitation to be a part of The Empowerment Project. Will you join me?

CLICK HERE TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN JOIN THE EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

-Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch



WHAT WE'RE READING

Attorney General Lynn Fitch: Mississippi should extend Medicaid for new mothers to a full year Clarion Ledger Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023 "For women who find themselves in a position of having to raise a child without steady income, without family support, without job skills or education that offers them a pathway to a better future, knowing that their access to health care is secure should not be discounted. It frees up income to pay for childcare or other necessities that allow their families to survive. It allows them to pursue the upskilling they and their families need to thrive."

"Mississippi should join the majority of states in supporting these women in their transition to motherhood by providing essential health coverage for them as they work to build a strong family. Strong families make for a strong Mississippi. Supporting them is not only the right thing to do; it is the smart thing to do."

Read the full piece by Attorney General Lynn Fitch here.

the EMPOWERMENT project

Attorney General Lynn Fitch

Use this graphic on your social channels and invite your friends and family to learn more about The Empowerment Project <u>here</u>. #EmpowerWomenPromoteLife



ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

Magee News- <u>AG Lynn Fitch Calls on Congress to Improve Federal-State</u> <u>Cooperation to End Human Trafficking</u>

Attorney General Lynn Fitch, along with Delaware Attorney General Kathleen Jennings, led a coalition of 36 states in sending a letter to Congressional leaders this week, informing them of an issue of grave concern with the National Human Trafficking Hotline and requesting their assistance to preserve the critical joint federal-state effort to end trafficking.

"Since 2007, Polaris has operated the National Human Trafficking Hotline with funding authorized by Congress. Many states rely on the National Hotline to forward tips of

suspected human trafficking to local law enforcement to arrest traffickers, safely recover victims and uncover evidence of trafficking rings and operations. In recent months, it was discovered that Polaris only forwards tips to state law enforcement about adult victims in limited circumstances. This practice is contrary to what Polaris advertises, to what states and organizations have come to expect from this partnership, and, the Attorneys General believe, to what Congress expects from its funding. Additionally, in some cases, states have discovered a delay of even several months before the Hotline shared tips with states."

The Magnolia Tribune: Attorney General Fitch Outlines Empowerment Project

"Since the Dobbs decision by the U.S. Supreme Court in the summer of 2022, the Mississippi Attorney General's office led by Lynn Fitch has worked to bring about what she calls the Empowerment Project. Attorney General Fitch recently sat down with Magnolia Tribune to discuss the new initiative aimed at better supporting women and children in the post-Roe era across Mississippi."

You can watch the full interview with Attorney General Fitch here.

Clarksdale Press Register: <u>Mississippi Attorney General Challenges Abortion Drug</u> <u>Approval</u>

Attorney General Lynn Fitch on Friday filed an amicus brief, along with 21 other Attorneys General, in the Northern District of Texas in the case of Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). "The FDA's brazen attempt to not only sidestep, but outright defy federal and state laws threatens both the health of women and democracy," said Fitch. "In the Dobbs case, the Supreme Court affirmed that states may enact laws that protect unborn life, women's health, and the integrity of the medical profession, and we will not allow the Biden administration to trample on this fundamental Constitutional building block."



