

Statement on Senate Hearing on Mifepristone and Louisiana Extradition Request- January 2026

Reproductive Futures

Today's Senate hearing was never about medical evidence, because the medical evidence is abundantly clear. Mifepristone is safe, effective, and FDA-approved. Three years post-Dobbs, telemedicine abortion that uses this common abortion medication accounts for over a quarter of all safe, legal abortions in the US.

What we witnessed today was an attempt to use political theater to undermine the FDA's authority and create confusion about evidence-based reproductive healthcare. While anti-abortion activists spread misinformation, science and law remain unchanged. Medication abortion is one of the most studied medications in history, with decades of safety data supporting its use.

This hearing and a recent request for extradition of a California telemedicine provider signal what we already know: attacks on telemedicine abortion access are escalating. Shield laws protect licensed providers in providing essential care nationwide and may be the only option for patients in under-resourced areas. These legal frameworks have been proven to be strong, and vital.

Yesterday anti-abortion state officials from Louisiana attempted to extradite a telemedicine provider, this time from California, who was providing legally protected reproductive health care. We are confident that Governor Newsom will continue his record of standing up for reproductive health care for all and deny this request.

The facts are simple. Mifepristone works. Telemedicine works. And we applaud states that are protecting this vital care.

— Julie F. Kay, JD, Founder and Executive Director, Reproductive Futures