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Been Waiting More Than Nine Months for the US Senate to Pass the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

"The United States Senate has a crystal clear opportunity to show Americans that Democrats and Republicans can come together to pass critical legislation on a bipartisan basis. The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act passed the House of Representatives last year with bipartisan support," said Fran Eskin-Royer, Executive Director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

"The National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd calls on all senators to vote in favor of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act. Until this bill is signed into law, pregnant workers who are deprived of reasonable accommodations in their workplaces will continue to face the impossible, unnecessary and unfair decision to choose between their jobs and their health and that of their unborn babies," said Eskin-Royer.

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act will ensure that pregnant workers are guaranteed basic accommodations that support a healthy pregnancy. This is incredibly important for workers in jobs that require physical activity.

"This could be through providing a stool to sit on or being able to forgo heavy lifting for a period of time," said Eskin-Royer. "While the Senate has waited over a year to vote on this bill, women have gotten pregnant and had their babies. Please bring the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act to a vote and then pass this bill so no more women have to needlessly suffer."

<u>The National Advocacy Center</u> educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, survivors of human trafficking, survivors of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.

The National Advocacy Center reflects the spirituality, history and mission of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (better known as the Sisters of the Good Shepherd). The sisters and their agencies work in solidarity with the disenfranchised – particularly families, women and children – who often are forgotten, left-behind or dismissed.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and are in 70 countries on 5 continents and have had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.