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NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Attorney General Kaul, Gov. Evers Intervene in *Planned Parenthood v. Urmanski* Original Action

MADISON, Wis. – Attorney General Josh Kaul today announced that the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) filed a motion and memorandum in support of the *Kaul v. Urmanski* State Plaintiffs intervening as petitioners in the *Planned Parenthood v. Urmanski* original action.

Both *Kaul v. Urmanski* and *Planned Parenthood v. Urmanski* are currently before the Wisconsin Supreme Court. *Kaul* asks whether Wisconsin “does” have a near-total abortion ban and *Planned Parenthood* asks whether, under the Wisconsin Constitution, Wisconsin “could” have a near-total abortion ban. The *Kaul* State Plaintiffs have asked to intervene as petitioners in *Planned Parenthood* to be able to fully argue that the answer to both questions is “no.”

“We are seeking to intervene in this case to help establish that the Wisconsin Constitution protects access to safe and legal abortion and does not permit the state legislature to ban nearly all abortions,” said Attorney General Josh Kaul. “The government should not be able to control critical reproductive health decisions.”

The *Kaul v. Urmanski* State Plaintiffs consist of Attorney General Josh Kaul, the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services, the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board, and the Chair of the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board, Clarence P. Chou, MD. The memorandum in support of the *Kaul* State Plaintiffs’ motion to intervene explains that the *Kaul* State Plaintiffs’ have significant interests in the outcome of the *Planned Parenthood* original action, including their interests

as plaintiffs in the connected *Kaul v. Urmanski* case and their roles as state officials that led them to bring that suit.

Kaul v. Urmanski began in June 2022, when Gov. Tony Evers and Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul announced their lawsuit arguing that Wis. Stat. § 940.04, at times been publicly referred to as “Wisconsin’s 1800s-era abortion ban,” cannot be enforced as to abortion. The Dane County Circuit Court ruled that the 1800s law bans only feticide, not consensual abortions. In addition to continuing to advance their arguments in *Kaul v. Urmanski* before the Wisconsin Supreme Court, by moving to intervene in *Planned Parenthood v. Urmanski*, they seek to argue that the rights guaranteed to Wisconsinites by the Wisconsin Constitution would prohibit a near-total abortion ban.