

1 ROBERT W. FERGUSON
Attorney General
2 NOAH GUZZO PURCELL, WSBA #43492
Solicitor General
3 KRISTIN BENESKI, WSBA #45478
First Assistant Attorney General
4 COLLEEN M. MELODY, WSBA #42275
Civil Rights Division Chief
5 ANDREW R.W. HUGHES, WSBA #49515
LAURYN K. FRAAS, WSBA #53238
6 Assistant Attorneys General
TERA M. HEINTZ, WSBA #54921
7 Deputy Solicitor General
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
8 Seattle, WA 98104-3188
(206) 464-7744
9

10 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
11 **EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**

12 STATE OF WASHINGTON, et al.,

13 Plaintiffs,

14 v.

15 UNITED STATES FOOD AND
DRUG ADMINISTRATION, et al.,

16 Defendants.
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NO. 1:23-cv-03026-TOR

PLAINTIFF STATES'
OPPOSITION TO MOTION
TO EXPEDITE

1 The Plaintiff States oppose Defendants’ motion to expedite because
 2 Defendants have not demonstrated good cause for expedited consideration of
 3 their motion for clarification. *See* ECF No. 81. Local Civil Rule 7(i)(2)(C)
 4 requires a party seeking to expedite consideration of a motion to demonstrate
 5 good cause. *See Jensen v. Biden*, No. 4:21-cv-5119-TOR, 2021 WL 10280381,
 6 at *1 (E.D. Wash. Oct. 19, 2021) (denying motion to expedite where Plaintiffs
 7 “provide[d] no explanation” for why emergency consideration of preliminary
 8 injunction motion was necessary); *see also Yakima Valley Mem. Hosp. v. Wash.*
 9 *State Dep’t of Health*, No. 2:09-cv-03032-EFS, 2012 WL 12951705, at *1–2
 10 (cautioning counsel that predecessor to LCR 7(i)(2)(C) should be limited to
 11 “emergency matters” and that general statements that expedited consideration is
 12 “necessary” would not be sufficient in the future). Defendants have not
 13 demonstrated good cause here.

14 Defendants argue that good cause exists due to “tension” between this
 15 Court’s preliminary injunction order and the currently-stayed Texas district court
 16 order in *Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA* staying the FDA’s approval
 17 of mifepristone. FDA Mot. for Clarification, ECF No. 81 at 2; *see Alliance for*
 18 *Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA*, No. 2:22-cv-00223-Z, (N.D. Tex. Apr. 7, 2023),
 19 ECF No. 137. But Defendants have already filed an emergency motion in the
 20 Fifth Circuit to continue the stay of the district court’s order in that case, and at
 21 this point it is wholly speculative whether (and on what terms) that order will go
 22

1 into effect. *See* [FDA’s] Emergency Motion Under Circuit Rule 27.3 for a Stay
2 Pending Appeal, *Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA*, No. 23-10362 (5th
3 Cir. Apr. 10, 2023), ECF No. 20. For this reason alone, FDA’s motion is
4 premature.

5 But even if the Texas order is permitted to go into effect, Defendants do
6 not demonstrate what warrants emergency relief here. Defendants’ motion does
7 not identify how this Court’s order is unclear in its mandate that FDA maintain
8 “the status quo and rights as it relates to the availability of Mifepristone” in the
9 Plaintiff States, nor do Defendants assert that FDA lacks authority to preserve
10 that status quo. ECF No. 80 at 30. This Court’s order was crystal clear. And given
11 how much remains to be determined in the Texas case, Defendants identify no
12 concrete need for an expedited order of this Court this week. Allowing Plaintiff
13 States a meaningful opportunity to respond will better serve the interests of this
14 Court, the parties, and the public, including by providing the Plaintiff States
15 sufficient time to meet and confer with Defendants to understand and potentially
16 resolve their concerns.

17 Simply put, Defendants’ motion gives the Court little to consider and
18 nothing to rule on. Defendants fail to demonstrate good cause for their motion to
19 expedite and the motion should be denied.
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1 DATED this 10th day of April 2023.

2 ROBERT W. FERGUSON
3 Attorney General

4 /s/ Kristin Beneski

NOAH GUZZO PURCELL, WSBA #43492
Solicitor General

5 KRISTIN BENESKI, WSBA #45478
First Assistant Attorney General

6 COLLEEN M. MELODY, WSBA #42275
Civil Rights Division Chief

7 ANDREW R.W. HUGHES, WSBA #49515
LAURYN K. FRAAS, WSBA #53238

8 Assistant Attorneys General

9 TERA M. HEINTZ, WSBA #54921

Deputy Solicitor General

800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000

10 Seattle, WA 98104-3188

11 (206) 464-7744

Attorneys for Plaintiff State of Washington

12
13 ELLEN F. ROSENBLUM
Attorney General of Oregon

14 /s/ Marc Hull

SANDER MARCUS HULL, WSBA #35986

15 CARLA A. SCOTT, WSBA #39947

Senior Assistant Attorneys General

16 YOUNGWOON JOH, OSB #164105

Assistant Attorney General

17 Trial Attorneys

18 Tel: (971) 673-1880

Fax: (971) 673-5000

marcus.hull@doj.state.or.us

19 carla.a.scott@doj.state.or.us

20 youngwoon.joh@doj.state.or.us

Attorneys for State of Oregon

1 KRIS MAYES
2 Attorney General of Arizona

3 /s/ Daniel C. Barr

4 Daniel C. Barr (Arizona No. 010149)
5 Chief Deputy Attorney General
6 Luci D. Davis (Arizona No. 35347)
7 Office of the Attorney General of Arizona
8 2005 N. Central Ave.
9 Phoenix, AZ 85004-1592
10 Phone: (602) 542-8080
11 Email: Daniel.Barr@azag.gov
12 Luci.Davis@azag.gov
13 Attorneys for Plaintiff State of Arizona

14 PHILIP J. WEISER
15 Attorney General of Colorado

16 /s/ Eric Olson

17 ERIC OLSON, CO #36414
18 Solicitor General
19 MICHAEL MCMASTER, CO #42368
20 Assistant Solicitor General
21 Office of the Attorney General
22 Colorado Department of Law
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: (720) 508-6000
Attorneys for Plaintiff State of Colorado

WILLIAM TONG
Attorney General of Connecticut

/s/ Joshua Perry

Joshua Perry*
Solicitor General
Office of the Connecticut Attorney General
165 Capitol Ave, Hartford, CT 06106
Joshua.perry@ct.gov
(860) 808-5372
Fax: (860) 808-5387

Attorney for Plaintiff State of Connecticut

KATHLEEN JENNINGS
Attorney General of Delaware

/s/ Vanessa L. Kassab

VANESSA L. KASSAB
Deputy Attorney General
Delaware Department of Justice
820 N. French Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
302-683-8899
vanessa.kassab@delaware.gov
Attorney for Plaintiff State of Delaware

KWAME RAOUL
Attorney General of Illinois

/s/ Caitlyn G. McEllis

Caitlyn G. McEllis (6306561)
Senior Policy Counsel
Office of the Illinois Attorney General
100 West Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: (312) 793-2394
Caitlyn.McEllis@ilag.gov
Attorney for Plaintiff State of Illinois

DANA NESSEL
Attorney General of Michigan

/s/ Stephanie M. Service

Stephanie M. Service (P73305)
Assistant Attorney General
Michigan Department of Attorney General
Health, Education & Family
Services Division
P.O. Box 30758
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 335-7603

ServiceS3@michigan.gov
Attorney for Plaintiff Attorney General of Michigan

AARON D. FORD
Attorney General of Nevada

/s/ Heidi Parry Stern
Heidi Parry Stern (Bar. No. 8873)*
Solicitor General
Office of the Nevada Attorney General
555 E. Washington Ave., Ste. 3900
Las Vegas, NV 89101
HStern@ag.nv.gov
Attorney for Plaintiff State of Nevada

RAÚL TORREZ
Attorney General of New Mexico

/s/ Aletheia Allen
Aletheia Allen
Solicitor General
New Mexico Office of the Attorney General
201 Third St. NW, Suite 300
Albuquerque, NM 87102
AAllen@nmag.gov
Attorney for Plaintiff State of New Mexico

PETER F. NERONHA
Attorney General of Rhode Island

/s/ Julia C. Harvey
JULIA C. HARVEY #10529
Special Assistant Attorney General
150 S. Main Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 274-4400 x2103
Attorney for Plaintiff State of Rhode Island

1 CHARITY R. CLARK
2 Attorney General of Vermont

3 /s/ Eleanor L.P. Spottswood
4 ELEANOR L.P. SPOTTSWOOD*
5 Solicitor General
6 109 State Street
7 Montpelier, VT 05609-1001
8 (802)793-1646
9 eleanor.spottswood@vermont.gov
10 Attorney for Plaintiff State of Vermont
11

12 BRIAN L. SCHWALB
13 Attorney General for the District of
14 Columbia
15 JENNIFER C. JONES
16 Deputy Attorney General
17 Public Advocacy Division
18 WILLIAM STEPHENS
19 Counsel to the Deputy
20

21 /s/ Nicole S. Hill
22 NICOLE S. HILL
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General for the
District of Columbia
400 Sixth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 727-4171
nicole.hill@dc.gov
Attorneys for Plaintiff District of Columbia

1 ANNE E. LOPEZ
2 Attorney General

3 /s/ Erin N. Lau

4 Erin N. Lau 009887*
5 465 South King St., Room 200
6 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
7 Erin.N.Lau@hawaii.gov
8 Counsel for the State of Hawaii

9 AARON M. FREY
10 Attorney General

11 /s/ Halliday Moncure

12 Halliday Moncure, Bar No. 4559
13 Assistant Attorney General
14 Office of the Maine Attorney General
15 6 State House Station
16 Augusta, ME 04333-0006
17 (207) 626-8800
18 halliday.moncure@maine.gov

19 ANTHONY G. BROWN
20 Attorney General of Maryland

21 /s/Steven M. Sullivan

22 STEVEN M. SULLIVAN*
Solicitor General
Office of the Attorney General of Maryland
200 Saint Paul Place, 20th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
(410) 576-6427
ssullivan@oag.state.md.us
Attorney for Plaintiff State of Maryland

1 KEITH ELLISON
2 Attorney General
3 State of Minnesota

4 */s/Liz Kramer*

5 LIZ KRAMER (#0325089)
6 Solicitor General
7 JENNIFER OLSON (#0391356)
8 Assistant Attorney General
9 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1400
10 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2131
11 (651) 757-1010 (Voice)
12 (651) 282-5832 (Fax)
13 liz.kramer@ag.state.mn.us
14 jennifer.olson@ag.state.mn.us

15 *Attorneys for Plaintiff State of Minnesota*

16 MICHELLE A. HENRY
17 Attorney General of Pennsylvania

18 */s/ Jill M. Graziano*

19 JILL M. GRAZIANO (Pa Bar No. 82725)
20 Chief Counsel to the Attorney General
21 1000 Madison Ave., Ste. 310
22 Norristown, PA 19403
jgraziano@attorneygeneral.gov
(484) 460-1330

*Attorney for the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania*

**Applications for pro hac vice admission
forthcoming*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 10, 2023, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF System, which in turn automatically generated a Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) to all parties in the case who are registered users of the CM/ECF system. The NEF for the foregoing specifically identifies recipients of electronic notice.

DATED this 10th day of April 2023, at Seattle, Washington.

/s/ Kristin Beneski
KRISTIN BENESKI, WSBA #45478
First Assistant Attorney General