

**Questions for the Record from Senator Charles E. Grassley  
To The Honorable Juliana Stratton  
Lieutenant Governor of the State of Illinois  
Hearing on “A Post-Roe America: The Legal Consequences of the Dobbs  
Decision”  
July 12, 2022**

**Question 1:**

**Please provide examples of how you, in your role as Lieutenant Governor, have increased Illinois citizens’ access to a broad range of pregnancy-related services, including post-abortion care, parenting classes, and financial support for at-need mothers.**

**Response from Lt. Governor Stratton:**

In Illinois, we are laser-focused on putting resources in place to ensure that families have access to what they need for their health and wellbeing.

Under the leadership of Governor JB Pritzker, state agencies have expanded Medicaid to cover screenings for depression before and after birth. Provisions in state law also require private insurers to provide up to a year of postpartum treatment for mental and emotional health. This builds on Illinois’ commitment to addressing postpartum health disparities, as we were the first state in the nation to provide Medicaid postpartum coverage for a year after birth.

By restoring access to Title X funding and doubling the amount of the federal grant received with state general revenue funds, Illinois is investing a record-breaking \$11.2 million in family planning services for low-income, uninsured, and under-insured people across the state. This funding expands access to critical reproductive health care to thousands of Illinois residents and families.

Additionally, the Health & Healthcare Committee of the Illinois Council on Women and Girls, which I chair, provided several recommendations to improve the health and wellbeing of pregnant and postpartum individuals. The Improving Health Care for Pregnant and Postpartum Individuals Act passed in Illinois addressed each of the Council’s recommendations to ensure high-risk pregnancies receive the care and attention they need.

**Question 2:**

**Please provide examples of how you, in your role as Lieutenant Governor, have worked to improve the adoption system so that families which desperately want children can give a loving home and bright future to children whose birth parents do not want or feel that they cannot support them.**

**Response from Lt. Governor Stratton:**

Illinois recognizes how critical it is to ensure every child is safe, loved, and supported. Our administration remains committed to addressing the needs of all children in Illinois, as well as providing individuals the resources and services to start a family, when and if they choose to.

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