

July 1, 2022

We are delighted that the AEA has recommended that all first-round job interviews be conducted online. This is a victory for an inclusive AEA. Pregnant job market candidates will not have to worry about whether their ability to access necessary emergency care will be impacted by Louisiana's strict ban on abortion.

While we applaud this decision, we encourage the Executive Committee to shift to a fully hybrid conference so that presenters and discussants with health concerns can participate in the presentation sessions. We recognize the difficult tradeoffs inherent in the location selection process, but we hope that the AEA will incorporate the safety concerns of its diverse membership in the selection of future meeting locations.

To reiterate the opinion expressed in our open letter: economists who are pregnant or might become pregnant have an equal right to participate in our Annual Meetings without facing disproportionate health risks, and we reject any attempt to frame the health and human rights concerns of pregnant AEA members as a partisan issue.

We thank Professor Romer and the rest of the AEA leadership for their actions today, and we look forward to further efforts to build an diverse and inclusive economics profession.

Signed:

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