

We need a federal law to stop needless, harmful restrictions that block and delay abortion access. The Women’s Health Protection Act is that law.

A UNIFIED CALL FOR ACTION

WHPA is supported by a broad coalition of nearly 100 organizations committed to reproductive health, rights, and justice through the Act for Women Campaign. The campaign includes organizations that work on a variety of issues such as racial justice, environmental justice, and LGBTQ+ issues, as well as faith groups, and health care providers.

Learn more about the campaign at actforwomen.org.

An Unprecedented Increase in Laws Hostile to Abortion

In 2016, the Supreme Court reaffirmed a person’s right to access abortion care, and yet extremist politicians have not stopped their unceasing attack: nearly 150 harmful, restrictive laws have been passed since then, and more than 400 since 2011, which:

- delay and obstruct access
- lower the quality of care that is delivered
- are meant to shame those seeking abortion
- require providers to perform medically unnecessary procedures and share factually incorrect information
- increase costs and risks of reproductive health care services, and
- create gross inequities in access to health care.

These disingenuous restrictions do nothing to protect health and safety of patients. A 2018 independent report on the safety and quality of abortion care in the United States from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that abortion in all forms and practice is safe and effective—but that the biggest threats to the quality of abortion services are state regulations that negatively impact the quality of health care delivery.

How does the Women’s Health Protection Act Work?

The Women’s Health Protection Act (WHPA) puts a stop to those regulations, and protects those seeking abortion from outright bans, obstacles, and medically unnecessary restrictions not required for similar health care services. These restrictions have eliminated access in large swaths of the country, creating a patchwork of access to abortion care and pushing care out of reach for already marginalized populations: those living in poverty, people of color, LGBTQ+ people, those who live in rural areas, and young people.

Why We Need the Women’s Health Protection Act

The Women’s Health Protection Act takes crucial steps toward protecting access to essential reproductive health care, self-determination, and the constitutional rights of all people, no matter where they live.