

POWER TO DECIDE POLICY

AGENDA 2025 - 2026

INTRODUCTION

Power to Decide is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to advance sexual and reproductive well-being for all by providing trusted information, expanding access to quality services, and catalyzing culture change. To support this, we advocate for policies that improve the availability of accurate information, and coverage and access to reproductive health care.

Contraception

Contraception is essential to the well-being of individuals, their families, and their communities. For six decades, contraception has allowed millions of people to manage health conditions, plan if and when to have children, and achieve their career and educational aspirations. Unsurprisingly, across ideological lines it is extremely [popular](#).¹ Therefore, opponents of contraception root their arguments in mis- and disinformation. [Pushing back](#) on this with facts rooted in medical science is critical to supporting pro-contraception policies.²

Here's how policymakers can help support access to contraception for their constituents, including:

Federal Policy

Support and defend programs and policies critical to contraceptive access for those who face the greatest barriers to care:

- The [Title X Family Planning Program](#)³
- [Medicaid coverage of family planning](#)⁴
- The Affordable Care Act (ACA) [contraceptive coverage benefit](#)⁵
- TRICARE contraceptive coverage benefit
- Protect and expand access and coverage for over-the-counter (OTC) contraception

Work to protect and expand access to contraception by supporting:

- The Right to Contraception Act (H.R. 999/S. 422)
- Convenient Contraception Act (H.R. 2529/S. 1239)
- Equal Access to Contraception for Veterans Act (H.R. 211)
- Expanding Access to Family Planning Act (H.R. 2762/S. 1394)

State Policy

Expand state policies that improve access to and coverage for contraception, as detailed in in our [state contraceptive access toolkit](#), including: ⁶

- Allowing [pharmacists to prescribe](#) contraception.⁷
- Requiring insurance coverage for an [extended supply](#) of contraception.⁸
- Requiring insurance coverage for the full range of contraceptive methods, including OTC methods without a prescription.

Abortion

Far too many people in the US have struggled to access abortion care for decades—as Roe protected legal access but did not protect insurance coverage or ensure access despite a litany of barriers often referred to as TRAP laws. Then, on June 24, 2022, the Dobbs decision overturned Roe and permitted outright bans and severe restrictions on abortion, which have been pursued by roughly half of all states.

The result has been a chaotic landscape where far too many people—particularly Black and brown women in the south, Indigenous women, young people, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and people struggling to make ends meet—struggle to access the abortion they seek. The harmful impacts of being denied abortion care are [well documented](#).⁹ Because abortion is basic health care that everyone deserves access to, Power to Decide created [AbortionFinder.org](#) to help people find abortion care providers and the practical support and abortion fund organizations to assist them as well. In addition to sharing this information, here's how policymakers can improve the [abortion coverage and access landscape](#).¹⁰

Federal

Support policies that eliminate restrictions on access to abortion and insurance coverage of it, including:

- Oppose the Hyde Amendment and other anti-abortion riders in annual appropriations.
- Support the Stop Anti-Abortion Disinformation (SAD) Act (H.R. 846/S. 589)
- Support My Body My Data Act (H.R. 3916).

State

Support policies that improve access to abortion, including:

- Expand state Medicaid coverage of abortion.
- Ballot initiatives and legislation that eliminate bans and restrictions on abortion.
- Policies that protect abortion providers and seekers, including "[shield laws](#)" and enhanced consumer data privacy laws.¹¹

Sexual Health Education

What type of sex education young people receive in school as they grow up [varies greatly](#) depending on where they live.¹² While some states and localities have requirements for robust evidence-based and inclusive curricula, other states mandate teaching only abstinence, prohibit teaching about sexual orientation and gender identity, or don't require anything be taught at all.

Policymakers have a role in supporting the programs and policies that improve sexual health education and information, including:

Federal

- Support funding for the evidence-based Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program and oppose the harmful so-called "sexual risk avoidance" (abstinence-only until marriage) program in appropriations.
- Support a multi-year reauthorization of the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP).
- Support the Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act (REAHYA) (H.R. 3527/S.1910).
- Prevent the erasure of sexual health information and data from government websites.

Other Key Components of Reproductive Well-Being

At Power to Decide, we recognize that there is so much that contributes to a person's ability to achieve [reproductive well-being](#).¹³ Our support for protecting and expanding LGBTQ+ health care access and rights, working to combat the maternal mortality crisis—particularly the racial inequities there—and efforts to address inequities in broader access to health care are all examples of this. Recognizing that these issues are part of the lived experiences of the people we serve, we also work to make connections and integrate these issues into our core policy work.

Endnotes

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8. Power to Decide, 2020. Impacts of the Domestic Gag Rule. Retrieved on March 27, 2025, from <https://powertodecide.org/what-we-do/information/resource-library/impacts-domestic-gag-rule>
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