Women's Health Protection Act

(H.R.3755/S.1975) 2021-2022

US Congress must act now to protect right to abortion

The Women's Health and Protection Act (WHPA) of 2021 is a federal bill that protects the right to abortion and eliminates unnecessary restrictions that impede people's access to safe abortion care.

In an historic vote, the House has passed WHPA, and now the Senate must act to protect the right to safe abortion!

THE WOMEN'S HEALTH PROTECTION ACT (WHPA) WOULD:

- Protect the right to access abortion free from medically unnecessary restrictions and bans on abortion—including mandatory waiting periods, biased counseling, two-trip requirements, and mandatory ultrasounds.
- Create a statutory right for health care providers to provide abortion care and a corresponding right for their patients to receive that care, free from medically unnecessary restrictions that single out abortion and impede access.

PASSING THE WOMEN'S HEALTH PROTECTION ACT IS URGENT:

- There are already many state-level laws across the country in place that restrict access to safe abortion. There are also multiple state-level laws that outright ban access to safe abortion –a clear violation of *Roe v. Wade*.
- The U.S. Supreme Court's recent refusal to block <u>Texas's SB8</u> sets an alarming precedent that endangers people from all over the country who lack accessible abortion care, and multiple states have already introduced copy-cat bills aimed at outlawing abortion in their state while they wait on further court rulings.
- Additionally, the U.S. Supreme Court is hearing another case directly challenging the right to abortion (<u>Dobbs</u>), and the ruling on this cases holds the right to access safe abortion in the balance.
- Already, nearly <u>90% of U.S. counties are</u> <u>without a single abortion provider</u>. Black, Indigenous, people of color, LGBTQI+, and low-income people are those most impacted by abortion restrictions and face the most barriers to accessing quality health care.

If the Supreme Court rules against the right to abortion in Dobbs, <u>12 states</u> automatically trigger abortion bans, and we are likely to see a total of 26 states ban safe abortion.

We need to protect the right to access safe and legal abortion care and pass the WHPA.