

## ABORTION IS A HUMAN RIGHT: KEY MESSAGING FOR AIUSA LOBBYING

The following messaging has been developed for state-level abortion rights lobbying. Use this messaging as guidance, and adapt it to meet your needs when lobbying for the protection of abortion rights in your state! Email [GSI@aiusa.org](mailto:GSI@aiusa.org) for any specific lobbying or advocacy help.

### General messages:

- Abortion is a human right, and denying safe and legal access to abortion is a dangerous violation of that right.
- Pregnant people, not lawmakers, should decide if or when they want to have children.
- Abortion is safe and common healthcare: by the age of 45, 1 in 4 women will have had an abortion, and this procedure has extremely low complication rates.
- Polls consistently show that a majority of Americans believe that the right to abortion should be protected.

### Lobbying for **protective legislation**:

- Protecting abortion rights means protecting the health and freedom of your constituents.
- The passage of [BILL NAME] will ensure that all people who can get pregnant in our state are able to access care, and it will protect their reproductive rights.
- I ask you to champion abortion rights in our state, and to show that we are moving forward and not backsliding when it comes to protecting constituents' rights.
- I believe every person must have the freedom to decide for themselves whether or not to give birth, and I ask you to fight for our freedoms in [STATE].
- I urge you to Work with other state legislators to overturn the existing abortion restrictions in our state, as they impede people from accessing essential medical services.

### Lobbying against **restrictive legislation**:

- Abortion is part of a wide range of reproductive healthcare services that people may need during pregnancy, and restricting access to crucial healthcare services is both extremely harmful and potentially deadly.
- Any gestational limit restricts doctors' ability to provide medical care, and these limits can lead to terrible health outcomes for affected patients.
- Abortion bans take away a person's freedom to do what they want with their own body, and like millions of other Americans, I believe that protecting the freedom to decide what you do with your own body is of the utmost importance.
- I trust that pregnant people know what's best for them, their health, and their families, and I do not believe that legislators should be involved in such deeply personal decisions.