

RFC ONE-PAGER

Abortion 101: Resources for Patients

YOUR ABORTION RIGHTS:

- As a result of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, access to abortion depends more than ever on your state of residence.
- Whether you live in a state where abortion is legal or one where it is heavily restricted, **you have the right to consider all pregnancy options**, and resources are available to help those who are considering abortion care, wherever you live.
- Even with the patchwork of state laws, federal law still protects key rights that may apply to you. These include: your right to **lifesaving abortion care in medical emergencies**, protection from **workplace discrimination** due to your pregnancy outcomes, and the privacy of your protected **reproductive health care patient data**.
- In seeking abortion care, you may encounter disinformation, judgment, and obstruction, even in states where abortion is legal. This includes fraudulent anti-abortion so-called “crisis pregnancy centers,” emboldened by Republican politicians.
- Every person and family is different. We will continue to fight for a future where you have the freedom to decide whether, how, and when to become a parent, free from political interference.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL RESOURCES:

- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists [Patient Guide](#).
- Planned Parenthood [Abortion Information & Services](#).
- AbortionFinder [State Guides](#).
- National Network of Abortion [Funds](#).
- Abortion Defense [Network](#).
- If/When/How Repro Legal [Helpline](#).
- Guttmacher Abortion Policies [Map](#).
- KFF Abortion Litigation [Tracker](#).

LEARN MORE:

- Read more about your rights under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) [here](#).
- Read more about your rights under the Civil Rights Act and Pregnant Workers Fairness Act [here](#) and [here](#).
- Read more about your rights under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) [here](#).

DISCLAIMER:

These documents aim to provide interested parties with a comprehensive overview of relevant resources for their consideration. A resource’s inclusion here does **NOT** imply official endorsement by the Reproductive Freedom Caucus, neither can the Caucus verify the accuracy or timeliness of all information accessed from external sources.

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ABORTION Q&A:

Concerned that your rights have been violated?

Whether you want to share your story, advocate for new laws, or seek legal recourse, resources exist to help you, including those in this document. Here are some of your federal rights as a patient. Please note that **each of these protections is currently in jeopardy** as Republican politicians seek to roll them back in Congress and the courts. At every stage of the process, we are fighting for your rights.

- Under EMTALA, if you go to an emergency room during a medical emergency, **the hospital must provide all stabilizing care**, whatever your pregnancy or financial status or type of care you need. This includes abortion.
- **Workplace discrimination based on pregnancy and based on whether you have or choose not to have an abortion is prohibited by** several laws, including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act. This is true regardless of your state’s abortion laws.
- Certain reproductive health records are protected under HIPAA. There are loopholes, but HIPAA-covered entities are largely **prohibited from sharing your medical data with law enforcement**.
- The Constitution **protects your right to travel across state lines**, including for abortion care.

Experiencing or trying to avoid dangerous disinformation?

Some facilities, including many so-called “crisis pregnancy centers” claim to provide legitimate health care but instead use deceptive practices to coerce or prevent patients from knowing their options.

- **Attempting to use misinformation to interfere with access to abortion care is unfortunately encouraged and funded by politicians in many states.** You deserve to hear the truth from providers who will share comprehensive, unbiased medical information. Before visiting a reproductive health care facility, look for warning signs and double check with trusted sources.

Have medical questions about abortion care or pregnancy?

Politicians are not our constituents’ medical providers. If you have questions about your pregnancy and health care options, we encourage you to consult your provider or a qualified specialist.

- **At no point in pregnancy** is a politician more qualified to make decisions about your health than you and your health care providers. Each pregnancy is different. Families deserve to have every care option available to them, including all methods of abortion care, and to make medical decisions with privacy and dignity—free from political interference.

Looking to share your story?

Stories like yours make clear why reproductive health care access is so important. **You should never have to relive difficult, personal medical experiences to compel action from your government.** If you choose to do so, we are here to listen, to amplify your voice, and to fight with and for you.

- Share your story and thoughts with House Democrats [here](#) or at the email address below.

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