

# REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH COALITION



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Reproductive Health Coalition

November 15, 2024

## **Reproductive Health Coalition Statement on the Equal Rights Amendment**

Washington, D.C., - The Equal Rights Amendment, which guarantees equal rights for all Americans, regardless of sex, is a powerful tool needed to address the current healthcare crisis. The ERA would help protect and restore access to reproductive healthcare. Equal rights provisions in state constitutions have been used routinely as a basis to defeat abortion restrictions, including this year in Pennsylvania, Nevada, and Utah.

The Supreme Court's *Dobbs* decision, together with restrictions and outright bans on abortion care subsequently enacted in numerous states, have had a devastating impact on patients' ability to access all forms of reproductive healthcare. From the creation of healthcare deserts as a result of clinics closing or medical professionals leaving states with restrictions, to delayed care that has resulted in severe pregnancy complications or even death.

With clinicians potentially facing civil and criminal penalties, the practice of medicine has been upended. These effects extend beyond reproductive healthcare, impacting all medical fields, including Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Oncology, and Emergency Medicine.

Since January 2020, the Equal Rights Amendment has satisfied all requirements for constitutional amendments, but it has yet to be published in the Constitution as the 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

The undersigned organizations of the Reproductive Health Coalition urge President Biden to immediately direct the U.S. Archivists to certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment to address the current healthcare crisis, guarantee equality and bodily

autonomy, and stop the further rollback of fundamental rights, which is certain to ensue without the Equal Rights Amendment.

American Medical Women's Association

Doctors For America

10000 Women Louisiana

Abortion Action Missouri

AccessMatters

American Association of University Women

Cambridge Reproductive Health Consultants

Exhale Pro-Voice

GA Physician Branch of the American Medical Women's Association

Georgia Health Professionals for Reproductive Justice

GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ+ Equality

Iowa Abortion Access Fund

Jewish Women International

Lawyers for Good Government

Lift Louisiana

Massachusetts Medical Society

Medical Students for Choice - Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine Chapter

MomsRising

National Consumers League

National Council of Jewish Women

New River Abortion Access Fund

Nurses for America

Nurses for Sexual and Reproductive Health

PA Religious Coalition for Reproductive Justice

Patient Care Heroes

Planned Parenthood Keystone

Pro-Choice North Carolina

Proud Haven

Queen City Women's Health

Reproductive Justice Maryland

RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association

Rouge Pills

Shattering Glass

State Abortion Access Network

The National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health

Those Nerdy Girls

Wild West Access Fund of Nevada

Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Women in Medicine, Inc.

Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts

###

***About the Reproductive Health Coalition***

*The Reproductive Health Coalition (RHC) is a wide-range of health professional associations and allied organizations who advocate with a unified voice to protect access to essential reproductive care. The tenets of this work include: a patient's right to dignity, autonomy, privacy, and the expectation of a trusted relationship with their clinician; protection of the clinician's ethical obligation to provide care, including their access to comprehensive training; and a commitment to an evidence-based approach to policy and practice. Over 120 organizations participate in the RHC, collectively representing more than 150 million members. Click [here](#) for more information.*