

ABORTION ACCESS NOW



Policy Principles

Overview

We, a broad coalition of reproductive rights, health, and justice organizations, envision a future where abortion is legal as well as accessible, affordable, and free from criminalization, stigma, or fear. Where everyone is supported in getting the care they want, no matter who they are, how much money they have, where they live, or where they come from.

This vision won't be achieved overnight. That's why we are coming together to build and lead a broad, inclusive vision for abortion access and coverage over the next decade. We're collaborating and engaging in meaningful conversations with supporters, providers, and federal policymakers to craft durable legislation to address the crises our communities have been facing.

In the two years since the Supreme Court's *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, ending nearly 50 years of precedent that established the federal constitutional right to abortion in the United States (U.S.), [22 states](#) have enforced abortion bans or restrictions that are wreaking havoc on people's lives. Millions of people across the country do not have abortion services available in their communities. Many cannot afford to travel, pay for child care, and pay for care out of pocket. Furthermore, people living in states with abortion bans are experiencing the multiple and compounding ramifications of these bans, from denied emergency abortion care, further accelerating our country's maternal mortality crisis, to denied care for chronic health conditions and an exodus of reproductive health providers.

AAN Policy Principles

We are committed to fighting for the most expansive policies to help the greatest number of people, especially those left behind by *Roe*, and working closely with Congressional champions in alignment with the policy principles outlined below.

Establishing a federal right to abortion

We know that *Roe* was never enough, and now we must reimagine what is possible for our communities. For decades, abortion access has been hindered by restrictive laws, social stigma, and disparities that significantly affect Black, Latinx, AANHPI, Indigenous communities, rural communities, im/migrant communities, people with disabilities, young people, and people with low incomes. Right now, extreme lawmakers and judges nationwide are working to systemically take away our right to abortion care entirely.

Our campaign's goal is to pass federal legislation that guarantees rights and access to abortion without political interference. This will include, but is not limited to:

- Establishing a pregnant person's right to abortion services free from political interference at the federal and state level.
- Providing protections to abortion providers and supporters.
- Ensuring flexibility to address both current and future attempts at restrictions.
- Addressing the criminalization of individuals for their pregnancy outcomes, including but not limited to abortion, to the fullest extent possible.
- Including applicability to U.S. territories.
- Affirming the right to travel in order to obtain abortion care.

Expanding access to abortion through coverage

Our campaign is fighting to ensure that abortion care is covered by public and private health insurance (including Medicaid) to address and undo the harms of the Hyde Amendment and related abortion coverage restrictions, including for immigrants.

Expanding access for immigrant communities

For too long, the U.S. has restricted and controlled immigrant communities, including their bodily autonomy. In a time when our communities are being further scrutinized and criminalized, especially immigrants, we must stand together. Our campaign is fighting to expand access to reproductive health care, including abortion, specifically for immigrant communities. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Lifting arbitrary and discriminatory bars on federal health insurance program eligibility for lawful permanent residents.
- Expanding access to Medicaid, CHIP, and Medicare for people with lawfully authorized status.
- Creating a right to abortion access for people in federal custody facilities.

Rebuilding the abortion care ecosystem

Since the *Dobbs* decision, many clinics have been forced to close their doors. While this was a problem before the fall of *Roe*, it has been dramatically exacerbated by it. Even if we succeed in establishing a right to abortion, lifting coverage bans, and facilitating abortion access for immigrants, it will take time and resources for clinics to reopen or for new ones to take root. We also foresee that people will likely continue traveling for care for several years after a robust federal right to abortion is established.

Given all of these issues, there is both an urgent and ongoing need for federal funding for abortion funds and practical support organizations. This can be considered a temporary bridge as we move from a state of gutted access for millions to establishing access in communities across the country. This also includes dedicated funding to support providers, cover the cost of travel, and make abortion care more affordable for all.