



**Business and
Professional
Women/OH**

Legislative News and What to Do

For the week ending September 25, 2022

www.bpwohio.org/legislation

Our Mission: To achieve equity for all women in the workplace and to empower all women through advocacy, education and information. Established in 1920.

The information contained in the links below are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of BPW Ohio. They are provided for your information to educate you about these pending legislative issues.

If you would like to share links to include in future issues, please email to: BPWOHLegChair@gmail.com. Include your name and local organization's name.

Voting

Why you should be paying attention to Ohio Supreme Court races

<https://ohiocapitaljournal.com/2022/09/15/why-you-should-be-paying-attention-to-ohio-supreme-court-races/>

What to know about Ohio State Issue 1 on November ballot

<https://www.dispatch.com/story/news/politics/elections/2022/09/20/election-2022-ohio-state-issue-1-what-to-know/67029882007/>

House Passes Electoral Count Reform Bill To Prevent Another Jan. 6 Insurrection

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/house-passes-electoral-count-reform-bill-prevent-another-jan-6-insurrection_n_632b641ae4b087fae6fbbef

Harnessing the Power of Women Voters

https://msmagazine.com/2022/09/20/midterm-elections-women-voters-supermajority-amanda-brown-lierman/?omhide=true&utm_medium=email&utm_source=everyaction&emci=8c26b943-2539-ed11-a27c-281878b83d8a&emdi=cbe092fd-2f39-ed11-a27c-281878b83d8a&ceid=447432

Equal Rights Amendment

THE ALICE PAUL EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT:

Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

BPW/OH's Legislation Platform Preamble: The Alice Paul Equal Rights Amendment shall stand first, foremost and above all other items which may appear on the Legislative Platform of this Federation until equal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution

The Equal Rights Amendment gets a new life in the fight for abortion access

<https://dnyuz.com/2022/09/15/the-equal-rights-amendment-gets-a-new-life-in-the-fight-for-abortion-access/>

Fifty Years Later, the Equal Rights Amendment Is Ratified. Now What?

https://msmagazine.com/2022/02/10/equal-rights-amendment-ratified/?omhide=true&utm_medium=email&utm_source=everyaction&emci=55409795-5038-ed11-ae83-281878b83d8a&emdi=662a646d-6638-ed11-ae83-281878b83d8a&ceid=447432

Economic Equity

BPW/OH's Legislation Platform on ECONOMIC EQUITY: Actively work to support equal educational opportunities; equal treatment for women in all areas of employment, including adequate retirement benefits, improved programs for women re-entering the workforce, and implementation of equal pay for work of comparable worth.

Education

Statehouse rally to be held on Saturday to protest Ohio's educational attacks on race & LGBTQ+ identity

[Statehouse rally to be held on Saturday to protest Ohio's educational attacks on race & LGBTQ+ identity - The Buckeye Flame](#)

Ohio State Board of Education to vote in October on resolution opposing Title IX protection for LGBTQ students

<https://www.cleveland.com/news/2022/09/ohio-state-board-of-education-to-vote-in-october-on-resolution-opposing-title-ix-protection-for-lgbtq-students.html>

Pay Equity

States with access to abortion care have lower gender pay gap: report

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/states-abortion-access-lower-gender-201526475.html>

Victim Rights

BPW/OH's Legislation Platform on VICTIM RIGHTS: Actively work to strengthen and enforce legal protection for all individuals who are victims of violent acts including domestic and/or sexual violence; and human trafficking; promote violence prevention programs; support services and facilities for survivors of this violence and the funding thereof; and support legislation, which provides compensatory and punitive damage awards to victims.

Donors flood fundraiser for 17-year-old Iowa sex trafficking victim who was ordered by judge to pay thousands to the family of her alleged rapist

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/donors-flood-fundraiser-17-old-150953777.html>

Reproductive Choice

On June 24th the Supreme Court ruled that the constitution does not provide a right to abortion. The ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization allows states to regulate abortion and state legislatures can pass laws that restrict abortion before viability. On the same day, a federal judge lifted an injunction on Ohio's heart beat bill which was signed into law in 2019.

In short, Ohio has banned abortions at approximately six weeks gestation. If any cardiac activity is detected, abortion is prohibited except when there is serious risk of death or substantial impairment of a major bodily function. The bill makes no exceptions for rape or incest.

BPW/OH's Legislation Platform on Health: Actively work to strengthen and enforce legal protection for full access to all health care services including reproductive choice, funding for research into the protection for women's health care and educational programs concerning women's health issues

Articles

Ohio's temporary block on abortion ban extended for another 2 weeks, area clinic spokesperson says

[Ohio's temporary block on abortion ban extended for another 2 weeks, area clinic spokesperson says – WHIO TV 7 and WHIO Radio](#)

What's next after extension of temporary block on Ohio's abortion ban
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/next-extension-temporary-block-ohio-220124787.html>

Patients from across country flood to Kettering abortion clinic amid Ohio abortion ban pause
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/patients-across-country-flood-kettering-183900441.html>

Lebanon approves new anti-abortion ordinance
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/lebanon-approves-anti-abortion-ordinance-141200716.html>

Abortion battle emerges in Congress over new Veterans Affairs rule
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/abortion-battle-emerges-congress-over-162748559.html>

Proposed federal abortion ban evokes 19th-century Comstock Act – a law so unpopular it triggered the century long backlash that led to Roe
<https://currently.att.yahoo.com/news/proposed-federal-abortion-ban-evokes-122156347.html>

GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham says abortion 'is not a states' rights issue,' weeks after expressing that 'states should decide the issue of abortion'
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/gop-sen-lindsey-graham-says-203411292.html>

We The People: How can Congress regulate policies like abortion given the 10th Amendment?
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/people-congress-regulate-policies-abortion-150700407.html>

U.S. Senate Republicans Introduce Nationwide Abortion Ban: 'This Once-Hypothetical Nightmare Is Here'
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/u-s-senate-republicans-introduce-nationwide-abortion-ban-150700407.html>
[Ms. Magazine \(msomagazine.com\)](https://www.msomagazine.com)

How the repeal of Roe v. Wade affects college students in states like Texas, Pa.: 'I felt like women everywhere were back at square one'
<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/how-repeal-roe-v-wade-college-students-143917629.html>

Galvanized by Dobbs, more doctors are distributing abortion pills by mail
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/galvanized-dobbs-more-doctors-distributing-160000188.html>

She Wanted An Abortion. Now The Embryo Is Suing Her Doctors
<https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/she-wanted-abortion-now-embryo-135527254.html>

Sinema: Abortion ban in Arizona removes 'basic rights' of women
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/sinema-abortion-ban-arizona-removes-133412160.html>

A judge blocks the Indiana abortion ban a week after it took effect
<https://www.npr.org/2022/09/22/1124478802/indiana-abortion-ban-blocked>

Indiana abortion challenge lawsuit travels from judge to judge to judge
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/indiana-abortion-challenge-lawsuit-travels-090959621.html>

Op/Ed: Indiana's abortion ban strips doctors of 'ability to provide evidence-based care'
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/op-ed-indianas-abortion-ban-090959408.html>

Lexington mayor urges public to vote 'No' on proposed anti-abortion amendment
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/lexington-mayor-urges-public-vote-131817460.html>

White House slams Michigan candidate's Plan B remark, says GOP wants to 'ban contraception'

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/white-house-slams-michigan-candidates-151032790.html>

Most Catholics in Michigan Support Adding State Abortion Protections

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/most-catholics-michigan-support-adding-163235021.html>

Sen. Wicker the only Mississippi Republican to weigh in on national abortion ban proposal

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/sen-wicker-only-mississippi-republican-105000719.html>

Councilor criticizes governor's description of abortion rule - NH

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/councilor-criticizes-governors-description-abortion-040100548.html>

Montana voters to decide on 'born alive' abortion bill

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/montana-voters-decide-born-alive-220721087.html>

How Texas' abortion ban hurts Big Oil's effort to transform its workforce

<https://www.yahoo.com/finance/news/texas-abortion-ban-hurts-big-100809427.html>

West Virginia governor signs abortion ban into law

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/west-virginia-governor-signs-abortion-181602044.html>

Wisconsin Republicans reject Evers call for abortion vote

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/wisconsins-evers-proposes-pathway-abortion-150018250.html>

How Roe v. Wade inspired this former Miss America to run for Congress: 'We need more women at that table'

<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/roe-v-wade-inspired-former-miss-america-run-for-congress-151829366.html>

Writing Advocacy Postcards

1 A Professional Beginning: Using a proper salutation can really help you set a polite and informative tone.

- Use "Dear Representative Brown" or Dear Senator Brown

"I am writing about HR 8, the **Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021**, currently before the Senate. I encourage you to approve this legislation as written on the grounds that"

2 Informative Yet Not Too Wordy: Identify yourself as a constituent. Focus on key points, make your requests clear, and cite the bill number (HR 8).

- Explain the potential impact on women -- and you if relevant. Use "I" statements and reference specific examples.
- **Write about one issue** and explain how you want the recipient to address your concerns.

Example:

"I am a constituent writing about HR 8, the XYZ Act, currently before the Senate. This legislation will ensure that women will receive complete medical information regarding options and access to reproductive healthcare. Please vote for HR 8!"

FIND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

If you do not know who your representatives are. You can look them up.

Find your Ohio House member and contact information here: <https://ohiohouse.gov/members/district-map>

Find your Ohio Senate member and contact information here: <https://www.ohiosenate/senators/district-map>

Find you US Representative and contact information here: <https://www.house.gov/representatives>

OHIO ADDRESSES:

Ohio House

Jo Ann Davidson Theatre Vern Riffe Center
77 S. High St
Columbus, OH 43215

Ohio Senate

Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, OH 43215

FEDERAL ADDRESSES

US Senate

Sherrod Brown
503 Hart Senate Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Rob Portman
448 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

SAMPLE MESSAGES

Equal Rights Amendment

SJR 1 Removes an arbitrary time limit on the passage of the ERA.

Dear Senator Brown

Thank you for co-sponsoring SJR1. Please champion the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and urge Majority Leader Schumer to bring it to the floor for a vote. It's time that equality of rights under the law not be denied on account of sex. Make the ERA the 28th Amendment to the Constitution!

Dear Senator Portman

Please co-sponsor SJR1 and actively work for the passage of the ERA as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution. Everyone should have equality of rights under the law that cannot be denied or abridged on account of sex. This adds to the legacy you leave in the Senate.

HR 891, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the "Equal Rights Amendment" to the Constitution is valid. Ohio Co-sponsors: Marcy Kaptor, Shotel Brown, Joyce Beatty, Tim Ryan

Dear Representative xxxxxxx

Please co-sponsor and actively work to pass HR891 that acknowledges the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution. The arbitrary time limit was on the Preamble and is not binding. The Equal Rights Amendment has met all the requirements of passage. The impact of this amendment will ensure equality of rights under the law cannot be denied or abridged on account of sex.

Reproductive Choice

Write to your Ohio Representative and Senator to express your concern about these bills and that you do not want them to vote for any bill that decides when life begins, controls access to all reproductive healthcare options with no restrictions or criminalizes patients or doctors for taking advantage of any healthcare options recommended by their doctors for their situation.

Note: These bills are in committee

HB 704 - The Personhood Act

HB 598 Enact Human Protection Act

SB 123 Enact Human Protection Act

SB 352 - Designate June 24 as "Life Day"

HB 480 - Authorize private right of action for abortion or aiding abortion

Dear Representative XXXX

Doctors and health providers not legislators or neighbors should be providing accurate and full information and access to all reproductive healthcare options that meet the needs of their patients. This includes telemedicine, contraception, pre-natal care, hormone therapy, fertility treatments, and if/when medically needed abortion care. Vote no on HB704, HB598, HB480 or any other legislation that does not rely on science and doctor's recommendations for the care of their patients.

Dear Senator XXXX

Doctors and health providers not legislators or neighbors should be providing accurate and full information and access to all reproductive healthcare options. Vote no on SB123, SB352 or any other legislation that does not rely on science and the best care for their patient's individual situation.

H.R. 8373 the Right to Contraception Act

SJR.4557 — Right to Contraception Act Co-Sponsored by [Sen. Brown, Sherrod \[D-OH\]*](#)

This bill sets out statutory protections for an individual's right to access and a health care provider's right to provide contraception and related information

Dear Senator Brown

Thank you for co-sponsoring SJR4557. Please champion the passage of the Right to Contraception Act and urge Majority Leader Schumer to bring it to the floor for a vote. We need assurance that access to contraception and accurate information will always be provided by healthcare providers.

Dear Senator Portman

Please co-sponsor SJR4557 and work for its passage. We need assurance that access to contraception and accurate information will always be provided by healthcare providers.

Victim Rights

These 2 bills are in committee. Our objective is to write to all the committee members and ask that they take it the bill to the floor for a vote. See addresses for all committee members in handout on the bills.

Senate Bill 90-

Prohibit impeding breathing or circulation of family members. (eg. Strangulation). Domestic violence committed in violation of the new prohibition generally is a third degree felony

Dear Senator _____

SB90 is in the Judiciary Committee you serve on. I am writing to request that you encourage the committee to bring this legislation to the Senate floor for a vote. Strangulation has been shown to cause death days after the attack when complications for swelling occurs. This kind of violent act needs to be included in domestic violence and be a felony. Please work with the Senate to pass SB90 and give domestic violence survivors the justice they deserve!

House Bill 121

Eliminate sex crime spousal exceptions; permit spousal testimony. The exceptions to the sex offenses that currently apply are rape, sexual battery, unlawful sexual conduct with a minor, gross sexual imposition and sexual imposition. Ohio is one of 12 remaining states that haven't amended the marital or spousal rape exemption law.

Dear Representative _____

HB121 is the Criminal Justice Committee that you serve on. I am writing to request that you encourage the committee to bring this legislation to the House floor for a vote. 76% of the states have amended the marital and spousal rape exception law. Ohio is not one of them. It is time that married women have the same rights and protection as single women regarding rape, sexual battery, gross sexual imposition, and sexual imposition. Please work with house members to pass HB121 and give married women legal recourse and establish new norms and behaviors for married men.

3 Electronic Messages You Can Send

- 1. Sign the petition to Leader Schumer: Schedule a vote on the Equal Rights Amendment**
https://actionnetwork.org/forms/sign-the-petition-to-leader-schumer-schedule-a-vote-on-the-equal-rights-amendment?source=2022ERAVote_ERAC&referrer=group-era
- 2. Send a message using NFBPWC's One Click Politics to Senator Brown** Thank him for being a co-sponsor and ask him to urge Majority Leader Schumer to bring S.J. Res 1 to the floor for a vote. Go to: www.nfbpwc.org/event-4488922
- 3. Send a message using NFBPWC's One Click Politics to Senator Portman** and ask him to co-sponsor and vote for removing the deadline for the ratification of the ERA. And, ask him to urge Majority Leader Schumer to bring S.J. Res 1 to the floor for a vote. Go to: www.nfbpwc.org/event-4488922

Senate Bill 90-

Prohibit impeding breathing or circulation of family members

SUMMARY ♣ Expands the offense of “domestic violence” to also prohibit knowingly impeding the normal breathing or blood circulation of a family or household member by applying pressure to the throat or neck, or by blocking the nose or mouth, of the family or household member and provides special penalties for violations of the prohibition.

♣ Specifies that in a prosecution of “domestic violence” in violation of the above prohibition, it is not required to allege or prove that the family or household member suffered physical harm, serious physical harm, or visible injury. ♣ Creates as an affirmative defense to a charge of “domestic violence” by violating the above prohibition that the act was done to the family or household member as part of a medical or other procedure undertaken for the victim’s benefit.

Penalties Domestic violence committed in violation of the new prohibition generally is a third degree felony and, when it is a third degree felony, the court must do one of the following: (1) except as described in clause (2), the court must impose a mandatory prison term of 6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 30, or 36 months, or (2) if the victim is a pregnant woman and the offender, in committing the violation, caused serious physical harm to the “pregnant woman’s unborn” or caused the “termination of the pregnant woman’s pregnancy” (both defined as in existing law, unchanged by the bill), the court must impose a mandatory prison term of 9, 12, 18, 24, 30, or 36 months.4 But if the offender previously was convicted of domestic violence or of two or more “offenses of violence” (defined as in existing law, unchanged by the bill), a violation of the new prohibition is a second degree felony, and the court must impose a mandatory prison term that is one of the minimum terms prescribed for a second degree felony – those prescribed minimum terms are 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 years.

Definition of “family or household member” The existing definition of “family or household member” used in the law regarding the offense of domestic violence, which applies to the bill’s new prohibition, specifies that “family or household member” means:7 (1) any of the following who is residing or has resided with the offender: (a) a spouse, a person living as a spouse, or a former spouse of the offender, (b) a parent, a foster parent, or a child of the offender, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to the offender, or (c) a parent or a child of a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the offender, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the offender, or (2) the natural parent of any child of whom the offender is the other natural parent or is the putative other natural parent. As used in that definition, “person living as a spouse” means a person who is living or has lived with the offender in a common law marital relationship, who otherwise is cohabiting with the offender, or who otherwise has cohabited with the offender within five years prior to the date of the alleged commission of the act in question.

Sponsors

	
<p>Senator Stephanie Kunze Ohio Senate District 16 Counties: Franklin (part) Senate Building 1 Capitol Square 1st Floor Columbus, OH 43215 Hometown: Hilliard (614) 466-5981</p>	<p>Senator Nickie J. Antonio Ohio Senate District 23 Counties: Cuyahoga (part) Senate Building 1 Capitol Square 2nd Floor Columbus, OH 43215 Hometown: Lakewood (614) 466-5123</p>

Referred to the Judiciary Committee on 3-3-21

Senate Judiciary Committee

Senator Nathan H. Manning, Chair
Ohio Senate District 13
Counties: Huron, Lorain
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Hometown: North Ridgeville
(614) 644-7613

Senator Rob McColley, Vice Chair
Ohio Senate District 1
Counties: Auglaize (part), Defiance, Fulton (part), Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Logan (part), Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
2nd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Hometown: Napoleon
(614) 466-8150

Senator Cecil Thomas, Ranking Member
Ohio Senate District 9
Counties: Hamilton (part)
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Hometown: Cincinnati
(614) 466-5980

Senator Niraj Antani
Ohio Senate District 6
Counties: Montgomery (part)
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Hometown: Miamisburg
(614) 466-4538

Senator Teresa Fedor
Ohio Senate District 11
Counties: Lucas (part)
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Hometown: Toledo
(614) 466-5204

Senator Theresa Gavarone
Ohio Senate District 2
Counties: Erie, Fulton (part), Lucas (part), Ottawa, Wood
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
2nd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Hometown: Bowling Green
(614) 466-8060

Senator Kirk Schuring
Ohio Senate District 29
Counties: Stark (part)
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
2nd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Hometown: Canton
(614) 466-0626

House Bill 121

Eliminate sex crime spousal exceptions; permit spousal testimony

Ohio is one of 12 remaining states that haven't amended the marital or spousal rape exemption law.

HB 121 focuses on two things: eliminating exceptions to certain sex offenses that currently apply if the victim is the spouse of the offender and expanding the proceedings in which a person may testify against the person's spouse to include prosecutions for any of the sex offenses modified by the bill.

The exceptions to the sex offenses that currently apply are rape, sexual battery, unlawful sexual conduct with a minor, gross sexual imposition and sexual imposition.

Sponsors:

	
Laura Lanese District 23 77 S. High St 11 th Floor Columbus, OH 43215 614-466-9690	Kristin Boggs District 18 77 S. High St 14 th Floor Columbus, OH 43215 614-719-6964

Cosponsors

REPRESENTATIVES

Rick Carfagna
Erica C. Crawley
Jeffrey A. Crossman
Tavia Galonski
Michele Lepore-Hagan
Beth Liston
Adam C. Miller
Jessica E. Miranda
C. Allison Russo
Bride Rose Sweeney
Casey Weinstein
Tom Young

Referred to Criminal Justice Committee 2/17/21

Address for all committee members:
Jo Ann Davidson Theatre Vern Riffe Center
77 S. High St
(Include Floor number – see below)
Columbus, OH 43215

Jeff LaRe, Chair
District 77
13th Floor

Andrea White, Vice Chair
District 41
11th Floor

David Leland, Ranking Member
District 22
10th Floor

Cindy Abrams
District 29
14th Floor

William Blackshear II
District 39
11th Floor

Sedrick Denson
District 33
10th Floor

Tavia Galonski
District 35
10th Floor

Adam Miller
District 17
10th Floor

Phil Plummer
District 40
13th Floor

Sharon Ray
District 69
13th Floor

Jean Schmidt
District 65
12th Floor

Bill Seitz
District 30
14th Floor

DJ Sweringen
District 89
13th Floor

Reproductive Choice

BPW/OH's *Legislation Platform on Health*: Actively work to strengthen and enforce legal protection for full access to all health care services including reproductive choice, funding for research into the protection for women's health care and educational programs concerning women's health issues

Legislation being proposed in Ohio

HB 598 Enact Human Protection Act

referred to Government Oversight Committee 3/22/22

[House Bill 598 - Status](#) | [The Ohio Legislature](#)

companion SB 123 Enact Human Protection Act

Referred to Health Committee 3/10/21

[Senate Bill 123 - Status](#) | [The Ohio Legislature](#)

Both will without exception, charge doctors with felonies for terminating a pregnancy, no matter the reason.

HB 480/ Referred to Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee 11/9/21

Sponsor: Jena Powell (80) and Thomas Hall (53)

To would create a financial incentive for individuals to turn in friends, family and neighbors if they know they performed or even helped someone obtain an abortion or used certain forms of birth control like an IUD and Plan B that prevent the implantation of a fertilized egg.

[House Bill 480 - Status](#) | [The Ohio Legislature](#)

HB 704 - The Personhood Act. Introduced 7/11/22 Representative Click

[House Bill 704](#) | [The Ohio Legislature](#)

To recognize the personhood of an unborn human individual from conception.

Cosponsors: Representatives Gross, Hall, Jordan, Manchester, Powell, Riedel, Stoltzfus

[House Bill 704 Status](#) | [134th General Assembly](#) | [Ohio House of Representatives](#)

SB 352 - Designate June 24 as "Life Day" Introduced 7/6/22 Senator Huffman, S.

To commemorate the United States Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization.

Cosponsors: Senators Antani, Blessing, Brenner, Cirino, Gavarone, Hoagland, Hottinger, Johnson, Lang, McColley, O'Brien, Roegner, Romanchuk, Schaffer

[Senate Bill 352 - Status](#) | [The Ohio Legislature](#)

What you can do:

Write to your Representative and Senator to express your concern about these bills and that you do not want them to vote for any bill that decides when life begins, controls access to all reproductive healthcare options with no restrictions or criminalizes patients or doctors for taking advantage of any healthcare options recommended by their doctors for their situation.

Legislation being proposed in Washington

H.R. 8373 the Right to Contraception Act Sponsored by Rep. Kathy Manning (D-N.C.),

[H.R.8373 - 117th Congress \(2021-2022\): Right to Contraception Act](#) | [Congress.gov](#) | [Library of Congress](#)

This bill sets out statutory protections for an individual's right to access and a health care provider's right to provide contraception and related information. *Contraception* refers to an action taken to prevent pregnancy, including the use of contraceptives (i.e., a device or medication used to prevent pregnancy), fertility-awareness based methods, and sterilization procedures.

Passed on Thursday by a vote of 228 to 195. Just eight Republicans—Reps. Liz Cheney (Wyo.), Brian Fitzpatrick (Pa.), Anthony Gonzalez (Ohio), John Katko (N.Y.), Adam Kinzinger (Ill.), Nancy Mace (S.C.), Maria Salazar (Fla.) and Fred Upton (Mich.)—joined all House Democrats in support of the bill.

S.4557 — Right to Contraception Act Sponsored by: [Sen. Markey, Edward J. \[D-MA\]](#) (Introduced 07/19/2022) Co-Sponsored by [Sen. Brown, Sherrod \[D-OH\]](#)*

[S.4557 - 117th Congress \(2021-2022\): Right to Contraception Act](#) | [Congress.gov](#) | [Library of Congress](#)

This bill sets out statutory protections for an individual's right to access and a health care provider's right to provide contraception and related information. *Contraception* refers to an action taken to prevent pregnancy, including the use of contraceptives (i.e., a device or medication used to prevent pregnancy), fertility-awareness based methods, and sterilization procedures.

What you can do:

1. Contact Senator Brown and thank him for being a co-sponsor of S.4557.
2. Contact Senator Portman and ask him to co-sponsor S 4557 and vote for the right to contraception.

Equal Rights Amendment

THE ALICE PAUL EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT:

Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

BPW/OH's Legislation Platform Preamble: The Alice Paul Equal Rights Amendment shall stand first, foremost and above all other items which may appear on the Legislative Platform of this Federation until equal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution

Legislation proposed in Washington

Senate Joint Resolution is 1 Removes arbitrary time limit on the passage of the ERA.

What you can do:

- 4. Sign the petition to Leader Schumer: Schedule a vote on the Equal Rights Amendment**
https://actionnetwork.org/forms/sign-the-petition-to-leader-schumer-schedule-a-vote-on-the-equal-rights-amendment?source=2022ERAVote_ERAC&referrer=group-era-
- 5. Contact Senator Brown and thank him for being a co-sponsor and ask him to urge Majority Leader Schumer to bring S.J. Res 1 to the floor for a vote.** Send a message using NFBPWC's One Click Politics. Go to: www.nfbpwc.org/event-4488922
- 6. Contact Senator Portman and ask him to co-sponsor and vote for removing the deadline for the ratification of the ERA. And, ask him to urge Majority Leader Schumer to bring S.J. Res 1 to the floor for a vote..** Send a message using NFBPWC's One Click Politics. Go to: www.nfbpwc.org/event-4488922
- 7. Tell others about the ERA, give them the link to Elect Equality and encourage them to make the ERA a focus for the mid-term elections.** The Elect Equality Campaign provides voters with the opportunity to hear directly from candidates on their position on the ERA. Go to: <https://www.eracoalition.org/electequality>

House Resolution 891, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the article of amendment (commonly known as the "Equal Rights Amendment") to the Constitution is valid. It has 182 co-sponsors including 154 original ones. [See Co-Sponsors.](#)

What you can do:

1. Use this letter to thank your member of Congress if they're already signed on in support or ask your [Representative to Sign-on](#),

Tell the White House: the Archivist must publish the ERA -- Please share with your networks

1. [Please Sign Petition](#) - Tell the White House that the Archivist must publish the ERA
2. [Send a message directly to the White House](#) that the Archivist must publish the ERA