



## **Reproductive Health Care Accessibility Act**

*Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (MA-07), Senator Patty Murray (D-WA),  
Congresswoman Cori Bush (MO-01), and Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)*

### **BACKGROUND**

People with disabilities have long experienced discrimination and barriers when accessing sexual and reproductive health care. They are also less likely to receive contraception counseling and timely prenatal care, experience a higher rate of sterilization, and are at a greater risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes. And they face other barriers to accessing reproductive care, such as a lack of accessibility at health care facilities, accessible medical diagnostic equipment, accessible travel, and health care providers trained to treat and address the unique, diverse needs of people with disabilities receiving reproductive health care.

The Supreme Court's decision overturning *Roe v. Wade* has ripped away women's right to decide for themselves whether or not to keep a pregnancy—and now more than ever, disabled people need to be able to get the informed and accessible sexual and reproductive health care they deserve.

### **THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE ACCESSIBILITY ACT**

The *Reproductive Health Care Accessibility Act* would lower barriers to sexual and reproductive care and help ensure disabled people get timely access to culturally competent health care.

Specifically, the bill would:

- Provide grant funding to eligible entities to carry out training programs for health care professionals providing reproductive health care for individuals with disabilities;
- Expand the physician and nursing workforce by increasing the representation of people with disabilities in such workforces;
- Provide grant funding to carry out education programs focused on the sexual and reproductive health care needs of people with disabilities;
- Establish a new technical assistance center to provide recommendations and best practices regarding sexual and reproductive health care for people with disabilities; and
- Direct the Department of Health and Human Services to carry out a study to analyze reproductive health care for people with disabilities.

### **ENDORSEMENTS**

Abortion Fund of Ohio, Advocates for Youth, American Association of People with Disabilities, American Humanist Association, Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs, Autistic People of Color Fund, Autistic Self Advocacy Network, Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network, Care in Action, Caring Across Generations, Center for American Progress, Center for Economic and Policy Research, Center for Reproductive Rights, Community Catalyst, COVID-19 Longhailer Advocacy Project, Dr. Kimberly Knackstedt—Senior Fellow at The Century Foundation and Director of the Disability Economic Justice Collaborative, Dr. Robyn M. Powell, Guttmacher Institute, Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Health Teen Network, Ibis Reproductive Health, Ipas, Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance, Johns Hopkins Disability Health Research Center, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, Lurie Institute for Disability Policy, NARAL Pro-Choice America, National Abortion Federation, National Association of Nurse

Practitioners in Women's Health, National Council of Jewish Women, National Domestic Workers Alliance, National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association, National Health Law Program, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice, National Organization for Women, National Partnership for Women & Families, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, National Women's Health Network, National Women's Law Center, Neighborhood Access, Nurses for Sexual & Reproductive Health, Patient-Led Research Collaborative, Physicians for Reproductive Health, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Population Institute, Positive Women's Network–USA, Power to Decide, Reproaction, Reproductive Health Access Project, Reproductive Health Impact, SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change, The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Action Network (#MEAction), Tzedek DC, Union for Reform Judaism, URGE: Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity, Women of Reform Judaism, Young Democrats of America Disability Caucus, Young Democrats of Massachusetts.