

PROTECT SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACT OF 2022

BILL TEXT

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Congresswoman Cori Bush (MO-01)

The **Protect Sexual and Reproductive Health Act of 2022** is an immediate and tangible federal response to provide comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care services, despite the Supreme's Court ruling to overturned the constitutional right to abortion care as set forth by the landmark cases *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. This legislation will:

- Modernize the Office of Population Affairs by establishing a **new Office of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Well-Being** within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that will oversee activities that promote sexual and reproductive health and well-being.
- Direct the newly-established Office to develop a national strategy known as the **Sexual and Reproductive Health and Well-Being Strategy (SRHW Strategy)**, which will:
 - Integrate sexual and reproductive health equity and reproductive justice into Federal programs and processes.
 - Identify areas to develop and implement a sexual and reproductive health framework that moves beyond a biomedical model of health to include services with respect to health.
 - Remove federal barriers to full reproductive autonomy.
 - Include patient-centered care models in the SRHW Strategy in hospitals, federally qualified health centers, Title X entities and include patient and community input in the development of the policy recommendations.
- Create an interagency task force comprised of all 15 federal agencies to coordinate on the development and implementation of the national strategy on sexual and reproductive health and well-being.
- Establish within HHS a **\$2.5 billion reproductive health justice and equity grant program** for community-based organizations to support

programs and services related to improving sexual and reproductive health care, including:

- mobile sexual and reproductive health care clinics;
- travel expenses;
- childcare;
- food assistance;
- lodging;
- medical care;
- translation services;
- doula care;
- housing assistance;
- legal aid;
- comprehensive sex education;
- behavioral health counseling; and
- patient education and information services.

Federal legislators have an obligation to fill in the tremendous gaps in sexual and reproductive health care left by a far-right extremist Supreme Court and the continued implementation of the Hyde Amendment. This legislation prioritizes the needs of marginalized communities – particularly Black, brown, Indigenous people, LGTQIA+ individuals, people with disabilities, low-income folks, and young people – to ensure that we are building nurturing environments that support every person, child, family, and community.

Far too often our most marginalized communities lack access to health care coverage, affordable and safe housing, healthy environments, a living wage, and economic stability. This bill uses a reproductive justice framework to prioritize the full spectrum and holistic needs of all people as it relates to their sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing. Moreover, it will ensure that there is an abundance of federal resources provided to people in need of holistic and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, no matter where they live.

The Protect Sexual and Reproductive Health Act is cosponsored by Reps. Ayanna Pressley, Barbara Lee, and Robin Kelly.

The Protect Sexual and Reproductive Health Act is endorsed by National Birth Equity Collaborative, SisterSong – The National Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective, In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice, Black Mamas Matter Alliance, Power to Decide, Catholics for Choice, Reproductive Health Access Project, Nurses For Sexual and Reproductive Health, National Partnership for Women & Families, National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors, NARAL Pro-Choice America, National Center for Lesbian Rights, National Women's Health Network, AIDS United, Positive Women's Network-USA, and Physicians for Reproductive Health.