

New Yorkers overwhelmingly support the right to access the full range of reproductive health services including access to maternity care, contraception and abortion.

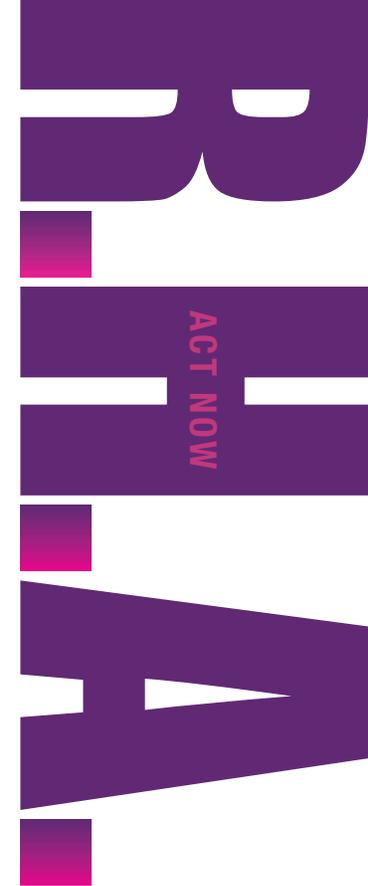
### Organizational Endorsers

American Association of University Women- NYS  
Center for Reproductive Rights  
Community Healthcare Network  
Community Voices Heard  
Congregation Beit Simchat Torah  
DC 37  
Downtown Women for Change  
Equality Long Island  
Equality New York  
Feminist Majority  
Judson Memorial Church  
League of Women Voters New York State  
LGBT Network  
Long Island Gay and Lesbian Youth  
Long Island LGBT Center  
National Association of Social Workers- NYC  
National Association of Social Workers- NYS  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Institute of Reproductive Health  
National Organization for Women-NYS  
New York Civil Liberties Union  
New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
NY State United Teachers  
NYS Association of Licensed Midwives  
Physicians for Reproductive Health  
Planned Parenthood of New York City  
Queens LGBT Community Center  
Reproductive Health Access Project  
SEIU 32BJ  
Services and Advocacy for LGBT Elders- Long Island  
The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists District II  
The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center  
UAW- Region 9  
United Federation of Teachers  
Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood  
Women's City Club of NY

**Call your State Senator today and demand the passage of the Reproductive Health Act**

**State Senate Switchboard: 518.455.2800**

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## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACT

"The Reproductive Health Act would protect New Yorkers' health by ensuring that important medical decisions remain between patients and health care providers—without legislative interference. Now more than ever, New York needs to be a leader in ensuring comprehensive reproductive health care access."

Dr. Anne Davis MD MPH, Consulting Medical Director, Physicians for Reproductive Health

The Reproductive Health Act will improve the well-being of all New Yorkers by ensuring access to abortion in New York.



“30 weeks into a complicated pregnancy I got a horrifying diagnosis from my doctors. A serious fetal development meant that my baby would not be able to breathe, that my pregnancy was not viable. At best, I would give birth to a baby who might live a few painful moments before choking to death.

I decided to end the pregnancy to spare both myself and the baby this suffering. But that is when I learned that I could not receive this care in New York and had to leave the state. New York’s unconstitutional abortion law makes abortions after 24 weeks a crime, even in situations like mine.”

Erika Christensen, Patient Advocate

## **New Yorkers overwhelmingly support the right to access the full range of reproductive health services including access to maternity care, contraception and abortion.**

The New York State Assembly has repeatedly passed this vital measure, but it cannot become law without passage in the State Senate. We need the Reproductive Health Act to fix the state law so that medical professionals can provide reproductive health services that are right for their patients.

How the Reproductive Health Act (A1748) would update New York laws:

- Moves abortion out of criminal code and into health code where it belongs so that providers are free to treat patients
- Ensures that the health of the pregnant person, not just their life, is a factor for access to abortion later in pregnancy
- Protects a patient from being forced to carry a non-viable pregnancy to term
- Confirms that all medical professionals licensed to provide abortions are able to do so within their scope of practice

## **New York State abortion laws have not been updated since 1970, prior to the landmark Roe v. Wade decision in 1973.**

Abortion resides in the criminal code in New York but it is not a crime. Abortion is health care and should reside in NYS Health Law. While the current law allows for abortion procedures performed prior to 24 weeks, and after, only when the patient’s life is threatened, it fails to include key constitutional protections for cases of non-viability or threats to the health of the patient.

The current law also contains outdated physician language that discourages qualified advanced practice clinicians from providing abortion care, despite it being within their licensed scope of practice. The RHA would clarify that these advanced practice clinicians can provide early abortion care, within their training and competency, ensuring that patients, especially in rural and low income communities, have greater access to safe and early abortions.

New Yorkers are currently forced to carry non-viable pregnancies and pregnancies that threaten their health to term, or providers must send their patients out of state to get care.