

# REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM ACT (S3030/A4848)

**The Reproductive Freedom Act protects access to time-sensitive care by prioritizing reproductive health care, such as birth control and pregnancy-related care, including abortion.**

During the COVID-19 crisis, we have seen how essential it is to make sure all people can get the health care they need.

As politicians in other states race to push reproductive health care out of reach, it is essential for New Jersey to step up and ensure that everyone who needs care is able to access it with dignity and respect.



## WHAT THE REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM ACT DOES

Declares that all New Jerseyans – including cisgender women, transgender men, and non-binary people – have a fundamental right to access reproductive health care, such as birth control and pregnancy-related care including abortion, and to make their own health care decisions without interference by politicians.

Repeals medically unnecessary, harmful regulations that regulate abortion differently from any other medical procedure and restrict access to care. These restrictions prevent qualified health care providers from providing abortion care and impose medically unnecessary rules on the types of medical settings in which an abortion can be performed.

Ensures that birth control is covered through insurance without copays, and that prescriptions can be filled for a full year of birth control at one time.

Ensures that New Jerseyans can access abortion through their private insurance with no out-of-pocket costs.

Expands a program for individuals who are not currently eligible for Medicaid coverage due to their immigration status to access affordable birth control and pregnancy-related care, including abortion.

Repeals old laws that create barriers to abortion access, including an unconstitutional law that required forced parental notification (which was struck down by the New Jersey Supreme Court two decades ago) and two criminal laws that are vaguely written and could be misused to prosecute and imprison someone who has ended their own pregnancy.

## WHY NEW JERSEY SUPPORTS IT

The decision about whether and when to become a parent is an important life decisions. People who can become pregnant must be allowed to make their own decisions about their health, including decisions on birth control and pregnancy-related care, including abortion.

These regulations don't protect patients – in fact, they hurt patient health by restricting access to necessary medical care. It is time to get rid of these medically unnecessary barriers and instead secure a future that safeguards reproductive care, upholds basic rights and justice, and respects decision-making throughout pregnancy.

The more cycles of birth control a patient receives at once, the less likely they are to discontinue using and experience an unintended pregnancy as a result.

A person's ability to access abortion care should not depend on how much money they make. Once someone has made the decision to have an abortion, affordability should not be a barrier.

By ensuring that everyone, regardless of immigration status, can access affordable and high quality reproductive health care, such as birth control and pregnancy-related care including abortion, we improve the health and well-being of our entire community.

When someone has made a decision to end a pregnancy, medically unnecessary restrictions should not create barriers to timely medical care. These laws, which are not currently enforceable, only serve to shame and stigmatize individuals seeking abortion care.