



Senator Butler on Advancing Reproductive Freedom

Senator Laphonza Butler has been a fierce advocate for reproductive freedom throughout her tenure in the U.S. Senate. In the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, her advocacy work amplified the voices of women and families directly impacted by restrictive abortion laws, helping to elevate the personal stories that demonstrate the urgent need for federal protections for reproductive health care. [Senator Butler has collaborated with national advocacy organizations](#) such as Reproductive Freedom for All, the Center for Reproductive Rights, and Planned Parenthood to build coalitions in support of reproductive freedom.

Key Legislative Accomplishments

- ***Reproductive Freedom for Women Act (S. 4554)***: Senator Butler co-led legislation to restore the rights previously safeguarded by *Roe v. Wade*, emphasizing the need to protect reproductive freedom as a basic human right.
- ***Right to Contraception Act (S. 4381)***: Senator Butler is a cosponsor of the *Right to Contraception Act* and [played a key role in advancing this bill](#), which would safeguard the right to access contraception and ensures that health care providers can offer these services without fear of legal interference. The bill represents an important effort to protect reproductive autonomy in the face of increasing restrictions at both the national and state level, which would safeguard the right to access contraception and ensures that health care providers can offer these services without fear of legal interference. The bill represents an important effort to **protect reproductive autonomy in the face of increasing restrictions at both the national and state level**.
- ***Women's Health Protection Act (S. 701)***: Senator Butler is a cosponsor of the *Women's Health Protection Act*, which would aim to restore nationwide access to abortion care, overriding state-level bans and ensuring a uniform standard of reproductive rights across the country.
- ***Right to IVF Act (S. 4445)***: Senator Butler is a [cosponsor of the Right to IVF Act](#), which is a legislative package made up of four separate bills that, together, would establish a clear and enforceable nationwide right to receive, provide, or cover IVF services, including servicemembers, Americans with private insurance, and federal employees. This bill would also authorize the U.S. Department of Justice to bring civil suits against state and local government representatives who enforce any limit on IVF.
- ***Let Doctors Provide Reproductive Health Care Act (S. 1297)***: Senator Butler [cosponsored this bill](#), which would ensure that medical professionals are not punished or legally persecuted for providing abortion care in states where it is legal. This legislation is

vital in protecting health care providers who work across state lines or serve patients traveling from states with restrictive laws.

Notable Committee Work and Advocacy

- ***Field Hearing on the Patchwork of Abortion Restrictions:*** As chair of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Senator Butler [hosted a Senate field hearing](#) in Phoenix, Arizona, where she [brought together advocates and health care providers](#) to discuss the real-world impacts of abortion restrictions since the *Dobbs* ruling. Titled "*Chaos and Confusion: Examining the Patchwork of Abortion Restrictions Across America,*" the hearing highlighted how women are increasingly forced to navigate a confusing and restrictive landscape of state-level abortion laws, leading to delayed or denied care. The hearing focused on personal stories of women affected by these laws, illuminating the burden placed on those who must cross state lines, seek underground care, or face dangerous pregnancies. Senator Butler emphasized that these **restrictive policies not only threaten women's health but also widen the racial and economic disparities that already plague the health care system.**
- ***Signing Key Amicus Briefs Supporting Reproductive Rights:*** In addition to her legislative and committee work, Senator Butler signed on to key amicus briefs supporting reproductive rights, including one in *FDA v. Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine*, which argued that state restrictions on abortion drugs, such as mifepristone, **undermine the federal drug approval process and pose serious health risks to women.**
- ***Senate Report:*** Additionally, Senator Butler was a key contributor to a Senate report titled, "[Two Years Post-Dobbs: The Nationwide Impacts of Abortion Bans,](#)" which detailed dozens of personal experiences across the United States that attest to the damage caused by the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision.
- ***Anniversary Op-Ed:*** To mark the two-year anniversary of the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision that overturned *Roe V. Wade*, Senator Butler joined Jodi Hicks, CEO and President of Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California, in [authoring an op-ed](#) to draw attention to the ongoing threat to abortion access – **even in states where abortion is currently protected by law.**