

# Support HB 2495 (HA 1 & 2)

## Illinois Reproductive Health Act

**Lead Sponsors:** Representative Kelly Cassidy  
Senator Melinda Bush

HB 2495

- Establishes the fundamental right to make individual decisions about reproductive health care, including contraception, abortion, and maternity care. This includes birthing decisions like whether to have an induction, epidural anesthesia, or cesarean surgery.
- Provides a critical update and modernization to Illinois' outdated law. The state should treat abortion, contraception and maternal care like all health care, with regulations that reflect current medical standards.
- Requires private health insurance plans in Illinois to cover abortion like they do other pregnancy related care.

### With House Amendments 1 & 2, the bill will:

- Codify current standards of medical practice on who can perform abortions.
  - o Only a licensed and trained physician can perform surgery in Illinois. Advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and physician's assistants (PAs) can only assist a physician in surgery.
  - o APRNs and PAs with authority to prescribe medication can provide abortion-related medications, as they can with other prescriptions.
- Specify that the Illinois Health Care Right of Conscience Act permits conscience-based refusals to provide, refer, or participate in abortion care. This includes health care providers and facilities as well as insurance companies.
- Provide that private insurance policies can charge a co-pay or other cost-sharing limitations for abortion to the same extent as for other pregnancy related care.

**With approximately 20 cases currently in the pipeline to get to a Supreme Court that can seriously chip against Roe, we cannot wait for another election cycle or for more opportunities for the courts to limit access to reproductive health care and maternal care.**

### What does it mean to **support** HB 2495:

- You agree that a woman's health must drive important medical decisions during pregnancy.
- You agree that a woman should be able to make all of her own decisions about prenatal care, medical interventions, and the circumstances under which she gives birth. This includes decisions like whether to have an induction, epidural anesthesia, or cesarean surgery.
- You agree that reproductive health is a fundamental right—including using or refusing birth control.
- You agree that Illinois should treat reproductive health care as health care, not as a criminal act.

### What does it mean to **oppose** HB 2495:

- Opposing this measure is putting Illinois women at risk of being harmed by the Trump Administration agenda that seeks to steal decision-making power away from women and their doctors.
- Opposing this measure is supporting antiquated laws that place doctors and women at risk of being charged criminally for seeking medical care.