



Lawmakers have been playing politics with women's health in Pennsylvania, and it shows in our poor ranking across key indicators of women's health and economic security in state-by-state surveys, year after year.

In 2013, advocates in Pennsylvania joined forces to create the Pennsylvania Campaign for Women's Health. Today, the PA Campaign is a successful, growing collaboration of approximately 60 local, state, and national organizations calling for evidence-based policies to improve women's health and economic security in Pennsylvania.

Our priorities are informed by our shared understanding that improving women's health is not possible without economic security, which is not possible without reproductive freedom.

In 2017, we hosted 12 Community Conversations on Women's Health across the Commonwealth in order to do what so many members of the Pennsylvania Legislature will not: We listened to women.

Our 2018 priorities are based on those conversations, expert policy analysis of loopholes in Pennsylvania state policy and laws, and the recommendations of public health experts. We are fighting the growing, insidious problem of government interference in the doctor-patient relationship; calling for equal access to the full range of reproductive healthcare including abortion; and advocating for common-sense, basic protections for women in the workplace, such as fixing Pennsylvania's broken equal pay law, and addressing pregnancy discrimination.

The Pennsylvania Campaign for Women's Health developed a legislative roadmap that will, if implemented, improve women's health and economic security in Pennsylvania.

We currently support these initiatives:

- [Workplace accommodations for pregnant women \(HB1583\)](#) Requires covered employers to make reasonable accommodations related to pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions unless those accommodations would cause a business an undue hardship
- [Workplace accommodations for nursing mothers \(HB1685\)](#) Requires employers to provide a private, sanitary space and break time for employees who need to express breast milk unless those accommodations would cause a small business undue hardship
- [Equal pay \(HB1243\)](#) Closes loopholes in the Pennsylvania Equal Pay Act, bans employer reliance on prior pay, and prohibits employers from firing or otherwise retaliating against employees for sharing wage information
- [Protecting doctor-patient trust \(HB1636\)](#) Protects patients by prohibiting government directives that require medical providers to give patients medically inaccurate information
- [Increase minimum wage](#) Raises the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour and requires one fair wage for all by eliminating the subminimum wage, or "tipped wage"
- [Identifying gaps in health care for women veterans \(HR313/SR5\)](#): Establishes a Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care to study the unique health issues facing women veterans
- [Cell phone contract termination for DV victims \(HB1632\)](#) Enables domestic-violence survivors to cancel cell phone contracts tethered to their abuser without paying early termination fees, and allows primary account holders to remove an abuser's name without a fee. Also requires the phone company to provide a DV survivor with a new phone number if documentation is provided
- [Lease termination for DV, sexual assault and stalking victims](#) Allows for early termination of a rental lease (with 30 days' notice) if the tenant is a victim of DV, sexual assault and/or stalking. Also allows victims to request that the landlord change the locks within three days at tenant's expense

- **Ensuring access to health care facilities (SB385)** Prohibits the use of physical force or obstruction or threat of physical force or obstruction to intentionally intimidate, interfere or injure any person who is obtaining reproductive health services or providing reproductive health services
- **Protecting all employees from sexual harassment (HB 1971)** Extends state sexual harassment protection to apply to employees working at businesses with three or fewer people
- **Safe Campus (HB962)** Requires colleges and universities to educate students, staff and officials about the risks of sexual assault (SA) and intimate partner violence (IPV), and requires colleges and universities to submit annual reports on SA and IPV on campus
- **Ensuring fair pensions for widows of state and municipal employees** Requires that a public employee obtain spousal consent for any benefit payment structure that does not provide at least a 50 percent survivor benefit to the employee's surviving spouse
- **Increased TANF earned income disregard** Encourages workforce participation amongst TANF recipients by increasing the amount of income that can be disregarded for purposes of benefit calculation from 50% to 75%
- **Require Insurance Coverage of PEP/PrEP (HB1107)** Requires private insurance companies to cover Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) HIV medication
- **Protecting Pennsylvanians with pre-existing conditions (SB958)** Prohibits health insurance companies from using an individual's preexisting medical conditions to deny or exclude coverage under a health insurance policy
- **Repeal ASF requirements for healthcare facilities providing abortion care (SB210)** Repeals Act 122, which required abortion providers in Pennsylvania to comply regulations designed for "Ambulatory Surgical Facilities," despite being medically unnecessary
- **Promote contraception access** Requires contraception coverage without prior authorization, copayment, coinsurance and dispensing requirements
- **Community Diaper Bank (HB1815)** Establishes a grant program expand access to clean diapers for infants, children and incontinent adults
- **Improving quality of life for nursing home residents (HB300)** Increases the personal needs allowance deduction for Medical Assistance-eligible individuals living in nursing facilities from \$45 to \$65 per month
- **Reduce domestic violence homicides (SB501)** Removes third-party safekeeping for DV defendants ordered by a court to relinquish firearms, weapons and ammunition and strengthens existing surrender policy requiring convicted abusers to surrender within 24 hours of certain convictions
- **Sex education (HB1615)** Requires age-appropriate, comprehensive, evidence-based sexual health education at schools across the Commonwealth
- **Task force on campus intimate partner violence and sexual assault (HB1633)** Requires a task force to assess intimate partner violence among Pennsylvania college students by holding public hearings and publishing a report with findings and recommendations
- **Fighting violence and harassment in schools (HB1754/SB872)** Requires schools to establish anti-violence and anti-harassment policy
- **Affirmative Consent on Campus (HB1921)** Requires Pennsylvania's postsecondary institutions to adopt affirmative consent standards for responding to allegations of sexual violence
- **Protecting college sexual abuse survivors who report (SB871)** Requires higher education institutions to provide amnesty in disciplinary policies for violations of drug or alcohol rules for a victim (or other witness) when disclosed in the course of good faith reporting of assault or stalking

For more information go to www.pa4womenshealth.org and follow the PA Campaign on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pa4womenshealth. Contact pa4womenshealth@gmail.com with any questions, or to inquire about joining the Campaign.

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