



Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT)

<https://sanders.senate.gov>

Capitol Address:

332 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-4503
(202) 224-5141 (phone)
(202) 228-0776 (fax)

District Address:

1 Church St Fl 3
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 862-0697 (phone)
(802) 860-6370 (fax)

Biography:

Religion : Jewish; Family : Wife, Jane O'Meara Sanders; four children; Date of Birth : 9/8/1941; Birthplace : Brooklyn, NY; Home : Burlington, VT; Education : Attended, Brooklyn College (NY) (1959-1960); Bachelor of Arts, University of Chicago (IL) (1964); Occupation : Director, American People's History Society (1976-1981); Assumed Office : 1/3/2007;


Score: 100%


2025-2026 Regular Session (119th)

Result	Description	Vote	
Passed	January 22, 2025, S. 6, Roll Call Vote 11Sen. James Lankford (R-OK), along with Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO-2), reintroduced a bill that politicizes abortion care and criminalizes doctors. It is misleadingly named the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (S. 6/H.R. 21).Anti-abortion rights politicians have made it clear that they want to make our personal health decisions for us, and jail doctors and nurses who provide essential health care. S. 6 is deliberately misleading to people who face pregnancy complications and offensive to the medical experts who provide their care. This legislation adds new, extreme criminal and financial penalties against doctors. It also inappropriately interferes with the doctor-patient relationship by substituting a family's and a physician's best judgment with that of a group of politicians.Doctors already provide appropriate medical care. To suggest otherwise is false, offensive, and dangerous, not to mention a complete waste of taxpayer time and money. This is yet another attempt by anti-abortion rights politicians to spread misinformation as a means to their end: to ban safe and legal abortion.A vote AGAINST S. 6 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health.The bill failed a procedural vote in the Senate by a vote of 52-47.	N	✓
Failed	Protecting the Right to IVF [2025] (2/21/2025)	For	✓

2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

Result	Description	Vote	
Failed	<p>April 19, 2023, S.J. Res. 10, Roll Call Vote 90 Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-AL) led a joint resolution aimed at overturning a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) interim final rule that protects the health and safety of veterans and their families by expanding access to abortion care at VA under certain circumstances. In September 2022, the Biden administration released an interim final rule that allows the VA — for the first time — to provide veterans and their eligible beneficiaries with abortion care in cases of rape or incest or when the pregnancy would threaten the life or health of the pregnant person. In addition, the rule allows VA clinics to provide comprehensive information on pregnant people's options regarding their pregnancies. Previously, VA regulations banned abortion care and counseling without exception, and veterans were often forced to travel long distances and pay out of pocket for care. The resolution to overturn this rule was a direct attack on veterans' freedom and autonomy, and is part of ongoing, coordinated efforts to restrict sexual and reproductive rights. Planned Parenthood strongly supports the Biden administration's interim final rule, which expands access to abortion care for veterans and their loved ones in some circumstances and opposes any attempt to reverse this rule or block access to abortion care for veterans and their families. A vote AGAINST S.J. Res. 10 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The joint resolution failed the Senate by a vote of 48-51.</p>	N	✓

<p>Passed</p>	<p>April 27, 2023, S.J. Res. 4, Roll Call Vote 99Sens. Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) led a joint resolution to eliminate the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), which prohibits discrimination based on sex. The ERA would be the 28th amendment and part of the U.S. Constitution. The ERA was first introduced in Congress a century ago in 1923, and passed in 1972. Congress set March 1979 as the arbitrary deadline for state ratification, which was later extended by lawmakers, but only until 1982. In the 1970s, 35 states ratified the ERA, falling short of the 38 required to amend the Constitution. In recent years, however, Nevada, Illinois, and Virginia have also ratified the ERA, reaching the three-fourths threshold needed for ratification. The ERA is a key step to prevent and eliminate laws that discriminate based on a person's gender. It would be a step to ensure that all people are protected from violence, receive equal pay for equal work, and have equal access to educational and employment opportunities. It would also be an important step toward ensuring full equality for transgender, nonbinary, and LGBTQ+ people, since lack of full rights for these communities is directly tied to sex discrimination.</p> <p>Planned Parenthood strongly supports efforts to enshrine gender equality in the Constitution. Reproductive rights are deeply connected to civil rights. Enshrining equality in the Constitution will also protect the right of pregnant people to make their own decisions about their health, including abortion. True equality demands that every person have access to comprehensive health care, including reproductive health care such as birth control and abortion, no matter their gender, race, ethnicity, income, ZIP code, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, immigration status, or any other identity. Without this, there is no true equality. A vote FOR S.J. Res. 4 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The joint resolution required 60 votes to proceed and failed the Senate by a vote of 51-47. NOTE: While Leader Schumer (D-NY) voted no, his vote was a procedural move required by the Majority Leader in order to be able to bring the bill back to the floor at a later time. Planned Parenthood Action Fund rates him 100% and considers him in support of sexual and reproductive health.</p>	<p>Y</p>	
---------------	---	----------	---

Passed	<p>June 5, 2024, S. 4381, Roll Call Vote 190 Ahead of the 59th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in Griswold v. Connecticut first recognizing the constitutional right to contraception and privacy, the Senate voted on the Right to Contraception Act. This Senate bill would create a legal right to obtain and use all FDA-approved forms of contraception — including oral contraceptives, intrauterine devices, and emergency contraceptives — and establish a right for health care providers to provide contraception and medical information about contraception. The United States has a long history of denying reproductive freedom through racism, discrimination, and coercion — stripping people with disabilities and Black, Indigenous, and immigrant communities of their rights. Ensuring access to birth control methods, including emergency contraception, is essential to ensuring all people can make decisions about their own bodies, lives, and futures. A vote FOR S. 4381 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The bill required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a vote of 51-39. NOTE: While Leader Schumer (D-NY) voted no, his vote was a procedural move required by the Majority Leader in order to be able to bring the bill back to the floor at a later time. Planned Parenthood Action Fund rates him 100% and considers him in support of sexual and reproductive health.</p>	Y	
--------	--	---	---

Passed	<p>June 13, 2024, S. 4445, Roll Call Vote 197The Senate voted on the Right to IVF Act, a bill that would help protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization (IVF). S. 4445 would establish a nationwide right for patients to access, providers to provide, and insurers to cover IVF and other assisted reproductive technology (ART) services, in accordance with medical standards, without prohibition, limitation, interference or impediment. Additionally, it would expand IVF insurance coverage and enhance fertility treatment and counseling options for veterans and servicemembers.Attacks on IVF, abortion care, medication abortion, family planning programs, birth control, and gender-affirming care are unrelenting and only escalating. On February 16, the Alabama Supreme Court ruled that stored embryos are children — a ruling that threatens IVF, abortion, birth control, and other forms of reproductive health care. The Alabama ruling was the clearest demonstration yet of the many ways anti-abortion laws, including “personhood” laws, threaten contraception, fertility care, and all sexual and reproductive health care. Personhood laws are a long-term strategy to take away our reproductive freedom.All people deserve access to the health care they need, including sexual and reproductive health care. The states creating insurmountable barriers to abortion and forcing individuals to carry pregnancies to term are the same states with high maternal death rates and restrictions to IVF.A vote FOR S. 4445 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health.The bill required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a vote of 48-47.NOTE: While Leader Schumer (D-NY) voted no, his vote was a procedural move required by the Majority Leader in order to be able to bring the bill back to the floor at a later time. Planned Parenthood Action Fund rates him 100% and considers him in support of sexual and reproductive health.</p>	NV	—
--------	---	----	---

Passed	<p>July 10, 2024, S. 4554, Roll Call Vote 211The Senate voted on the Reproductive Freedom for Women Act. This bill expresses support for protecting access to reproductive health care after the Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health decision, in which the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade and ended the federal constitutional right to abortion.Two years after the Dobbs decision, 43% of women of reproductive age, plus trans and non-binary people, live in states with abortion bans. Millions of people are forced to travel hundreds or even thousands of miles to get abortion care if they are able or continue their pregnancy against their will.Abortion bans create barriers to other sexual and reproductive health care. The states passing insurmountable barriers to abortion and forcing individuals to carry pregnancies to term are the same states with high maternal death rates. And attacks on IVF, abortion care, medication abortion, family planning programs, birth control, LGBTQ+ rights, and gender-affirming care are only escalating.Abortion bans and restrictions continue to do the most harm to Black, Latino, and Indigenous communities, rural communities, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, and young people — those who already face barriers to sexual and reproductive health care due to systemic racism and discrimination. Every person, no matter where they live, their immigration status, or how much money they have, should be able to make decisions about their own bodies and futures without political interference.A vote FOR S. 4554 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health.The bill required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a vote of 49-44.NOTE: While Leader Schumer (D-NY) voted no, his vote was a procedural move required by the Majority Leader in order to be able to bring the bill back to the floor at a later time. Planned Parenthood Action Fund rates him 100% and considers him in support of sexual and reproductive health.</p>	Y	✓
--------	---	---	---

Passed	<p>September 17, 2024, S. 4445, Roll Call Vote 242The Senate voted for the second time this year on the Right to IVF Act, a bill that would help protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization (IVF). The Right to IVF Act was previously blocked in the Senate on June 13, 2024.S. 4445 would establish a nationwide right for patients to access, providers to provide, and insurers to cover IVF and other assisted reproductive technology (ART) services, in accordance with medical standards, without prohibition, limitation, interference or impediment. Additionally, it would expand IVF insurance coverage and enhance fertility treatment and counseling options for veterans and servicemembers.Lawmakers hostile to reproductive health and rights continue escalating their relentless attacks on IVF, abortion care (including medication abortion), family planning programs, birth control, and gender-affirming care. On February 16, the Alabama Supreme Court ruled that stored embryos are children — a ruling that jeopardizes IVF, abortion, birth control, and other forms of reproductive health care. The Alabama ruling was the clearest demonstration yet of the many ways anti-abortion policies, including “personhood” laws, threaten contraception, fertility care, and all sexual and reproductive health care. Personhood laws are a long-term strategy by anti-abortion politicians to take away our reproductive rights.All people deserve access to the health care they need, including sexual and reproductive health care. The states creating insurmountable barriers to abortion and forcing individuals to carry pregnancies to term are the same states with high maternal death rates and restrictions to IVF.A vote FOR S. 4445 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health.The bill required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a vote of 51-44.</p>	Y	✓
--------	--	---	---

117th Congress (2021-2022)

Result	Description	Vote	
Failed	<p>February 28, 2022, Women's Health Protection Act (H.R. 3755), Roll Call Vote 65The Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA) — led by Sens. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) in the Senate —would create a statutory right for doctors and clinicians to provide abortion care, and patients to receive that care, free from medically unnecessary restrictions and bans. In recent years, a surge of abortion bans and restrictions have been enacted across the country. State lawmakers, emboldened by the new makeup of the Supreme Court and the more than 230 federal judges appointed by the Trump-Pence administration, are rushing to control sexual and reproductive rights and freedoms. It's part of a coordinated attack at the state level to restrict access to safe, legal abortion. WHPA would prohibit a range of state bans and restrictions intended to make it harder for people to access safe and legal abortion services. The bill targets state restrictions that fail to protect sexual and reproductive health and works to advance and protect the constitutionally guaranteed, personal decision to have an abortion by protecting a pregnant person's access to care no matter where they live.WHPA would enshrine the constitutional right to abortion into federal law and bring us closer to a world where all people can make their own decisions about their health, their lives, their families, and their futures. A vote FOR the Women's Health Protection Act was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The bill required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a vote of 46-48.</p>	Y	✓

Failed	<p>May 11, 2022, Women's Health Protection Act (S. 4132), Roll Call Vote 170In response to the leaked Supreme Court decision on May 2, 2022 indicating that the court was poised to overturn Roe v. Wade, the Senate voted on a modified version of the Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA). This Senate bill would create a statutory right for doctors and clinicians to provide abortion care, and patients to receive that care, free from medically unnecessary restrictions and bans. WHPA would prohibit states from putting in place a range of bans and restrictions intended to make it harder for people to access safe and legal abortion services. WHPA targets state restrictions that fail to protect sexual and reproductive health and works to advance and protect the personal decision to have an abortion by protecting a pregnant person's access to care no matter where they live. In 2021, the House passed a version of this bill, which the Senate failed to advance.WHPA would enshrine the constitutional right to abortion into federal law and bring us closer to a world where all people can make their own decisions about their health, their lives, their families, and their futures. A vote FOR the Women's Health Protection Act was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The bill required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a vote of 49-51.</p>	Y	✓
Failed	<p>August 8, 2022, Rubio of Florida Motion to Commit No. 18 to the Inflation Reduction Act (H.R.5376), Roll Call Vote 319During consideration of the Inflation Reduction Act (H.R.5376), Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL) proposed a motion to commit the bill back to committee with instructions to define the term 'pregnancy' in the bill to make federal maternal and infant-related program resources available only to pregnant people who were assigned the gender female at birth.Transgender and gender-nonconforming people already experience many challenges when seeking basic health care needs. The Rubio motion was intended to discriminate against and marginalize patients who face serious barriers to care. People of all genders deserve to access the care they need in settings free from discrimination. Politicians have no place interfering in the provider-patient relationship.A vote AGAINST the Rubio Motion to Commit was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The motion failed the Senate by a vote of 50-50.</p>	N	✓
Failed	<p>Sasse Amdt #192 - Interfering with the confidential and personal doctor-patient relationship (2021 Budget Reconciliation) [2021] (2/3/2021)</p>	Against	✓
Failed	<p>Lankford Amdt #1031 - Restricting Abortion Access for Low-Income People [2021] (3/5/2021)</p>	Against	✓
Failed	<p>Lee Amdt #1891 - Restricting Medical Research that Relies on Fetal Tissue [2021] (5/24/2021)</p>	Against	✓

Passed	Lankford Amdt #3792 - Significant Expansion of Abortion Coverage Restrictions [2021] (8/9/2021)	Against	✓
Failed	Kennedy Amdt #3758 - Banning abortions after 20 weeks, nationwide [2021] (8/9/2021)	Against	✓
Failed	Inhofe Amdt #3331 - Reasons Abortion Ban, on the Basis of Down Syndrome [2021] (8/8/2021)	Against	✓
Failed	Overturning the Biden-Harris Administration's Title X Rule [2022] (4/22/2022)	Against	✓

116th Congress (2019-2020)

Result	Description	Vote	
Passed	<p>January 17, 2019, No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act (S. 109), Roll Call vote 7The U.S. Senate failed to pass a bill sponsored by Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS) to effectively ban insurance coverage of abortion for millions of people covered via the Affordable Care Act, possibly causing some private insurers to drop abortion coverage entirely, and would make the Hyde Amendment permanent. This bill would undermine a person's ability to make personal decisions about their own health care, and would be disproportionately harmful to low-income people and people of color. Since 1976, the Hyde Amendment has barred public health insurance plans, including Medicare and Medicaid, from covering abortion procedures, except in cases of rape, incest, or if the pregnant person's life is in danger. This policy was designed to target low-income people, and it disproportionately impacts people of color. S. 109 would go even further and would not provide exemptions to this policy, even to protect against serious medical conditions. This bill also takes steps to disincentivize private insurance coverage of sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion, by taking away important financial assistance from American families, including cost-sharing reductions and premium tax credits to help pay for the cost of health care. Additionally, if this bill passed, those who enroll in health insurance plans which include coverage for abortion would not be able to receive financial assistance to pay for their health care. This law would also retract rules under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) which had strong transparency requirements, including a requirement to prominently display whether the plan covers abortion and the cost of abortion coverage in all marketing or advertising materials and information from the insurer. Under S. 109, plans do not have to disclose at this level of detail other covered services. A vote AGAINST S. 109 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The motion required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a vote of 48-47.</p>	N	✓

Passed	<p>February 25, 2019, S. 311, Roll Call Vote 27</p> <p>On January 31, 2019, Senator Ben Sasse (R-NE) reintroduced the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (S. 311), a bill that would limit the sexual and reproductive health care choices and interfere in the doctor-patient relationship. The ultimate goal of supporters of S. 311 is to promote a political agenda of banning safe, legal abortion in the United States. This bill would amend current law to apply new criminal penalties and severely overreach into the practice of medicine. S. 311 was written by politicians, not doctors. This is not how medical care works, and it's irresponsible to imply that it is. This bill is an attempt by anti-sexual and reproductive health politicians in Congress to shame patients and criminalize doctors for a practice that doesn't exist. People deserve accurate medical information based on science, and not politics. The rigid set of requirements the legislation places on physicians is solely meant to intimidate abortion providers from providing people with the care they need. A vote AGAINST S. 311 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The motion required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a vote of 53-44.</p>	N	✓
Passed	<p>February 25, 2020, S. 3275, Roll Call Vote 57</p> <p>On February 11, 2020, Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC), introduced the deceptive and misleadingly named "Pain-Capable Unborn Child Act" which would ban abortions at or after 20 weeks with very limited exceptions. Despite Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's (R-KY) commitment to bringing only bills that help the American people to the floor, this bill was on the floor of the Senate for a vote just days after its introduction. S. 3275 denies pregnant individuals access to an abortion after 20 weeks, even if they experience severe, dangerous health complications as a result of their pregnancy. It would also subject doctors to criminal penalties for performing a safe, legal medical procedure. This bill adds significant barriers for sexual assault survivors who want a safe and legal abortion – potentially requiring three separate appointments with two separate health care providers over the course of 48 hours. A vote AGAINST S. 3275 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The motion required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a bipartisan vote of 53-44.</p>	NV	—

Passed	<p>February 25, 2020, S. 311, Roll Call Vote 58</p> <p>Last January, Senator Ben Sasse (R-NE) reintroduced the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (S. 311), a bill that would limit sexual and reproductive health care choices and upend the doctor-patient relationship. The Senate failed to get the required 60 votes to advance. Exactly one year later, the Senate again brought the bill to the floor for another vote. The ultimate goal of supporters of S. 311 is to promote a political agenda banning safe, legal abortion in the United States. This bill would amend current law to apply new criminal penalties and severely overreach into the practice of medicine. S. 311 was written by politicians, not doctors. This is not how medical care works, and it's irresponsible to imply that it is. This bill is an attempt by anti-sexual and reproductive health politicians in Congress to shame patients and criminalize doctors for a practice that doesn't exist. People deserve accurate medical information based on science, not politics. The rigid set of requirements the legislation places on physicians is solely meant to intimidate abortion providers from giving people the care they need. A vote AGAINST S. 311 was a vote in support of sexual and reproductive health. The motion required 60 votes to proceed, and failed the Senate by a vote of 56-41.</p>	NV	—
--------	---	----	---