ABORTION IS HEALTH CARE.
How the ROE Act will break down entrenched, unjust barriers to safe, legal abortion in Massachusetts.

In 1973, the Supreme Court guaranteed the right to safe, legal abortion. Since then, politicians across the country have passed countless laws to shame, coerce, and punish people seeking abortion care. Now, the Trump-Pence administration has launched a full scale attack to infringe on our freedoms and take away our rights, including access to abortion.

Even in Massachusetts, people face entrenched, unjust barriers to safe, legal abortion.

We need the ROE Act to break down these barriers to health care in Massachusetts.
The ROE Act will improve access to affordable abortion by removing unnecessary, burdensome laws that delay and deny care. This comprehensive legislation will do the following:

Protect the health, safety, and privacy of young people.
The ROE Act eliminates the onerous requirement that forces teens to obtain permission from a parent or judge to access abortion. This process causes teens to delay care or travel outside of the state, and is opposed by the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Ensure medical decisions remain between a patient and their doctor.
The current law puts people and their families in the unimaginable situation of needing to end a pregnancy for serious medical reasons, but unable to do so, forcing people to travel across the country to access an abortion later in their pregnancy. The ROE Act expands access to abortion after 24 weeks of pregnancy in cases of fatal fetal anomalies.

Lead the way in ensuring equitable access to abortion.
Everyone deserves the opportunity to lead a healthy life, no matter who they are or where they come from. That’s why the ROE Act ensures safety net coverage for abortion care which already exists for all other pregnancy-related care for people excluded from MassHealth.

Bring our laws into the 21st century and reduce stigma around abortion.
The ROE Act abolishes medically unnecessary restrictions, reforms inflammatory and inaccurate legal definitions relative to pregnancy and abortion, and eliminates unwarranted intrusions and criminal penalties for doctors that provide abortion care. The bill also codifies reproductive freedom into state law.

Did you know there’s an unenforced law requiring a 24-hour waiting period for abortion in Massachusetts?

The ROE Act • S. 1209, H. 3320 • Sponsored by Senator Harriette L. Chandler, Reps. Patricia A. Haddad and Jay D. Livingstone • #ROEAct
Printed in house.
ACT NOW TO PROTECT WOMEN’S ABORTION ACCESS!

Call your local state senator and representative TODAY and tell them you want them to do everything in their power to pass the ROE Act, so everyone has access to safe and legal abortion.

HOW?

1. Go to bit.ly/roe-rep (case sensitive) and enter in your address + phone number. If you don’t have an internet capable phone, you can call 1-888-665-9804.

2. The click-to-call system will call your phone - answer the call, stay on the line, and you will be directed to your state rep’s office line. Use the talking points below to help with your call!

WHAT SHOULD I SAY?

Speak from your heart! Here are some samples of things you might say, but by all means, make it your own:

• I respectfully urge you to do everything in your power to pass the ROE Act, critical legislation that would protect and ensure equitable access to safe, legal abortion in Massachusetts.

• Massachusetts has harmful laws on our books, including parental consent and judicial bypass requirements for young people seeking abortion care, and a provision that does not allow for families who receive a fatal fetal diagnosis to access abortion later in pregnancy.

• Right now in MA, young people who lack a supportive parent are crossing state lines to access abortion, and women are being forced to fly across the country for care. The law is failing them. We can change that with the ROE Act.

• So much is at stake, and voters are concerned - in fact, 72 percent of likely Massachusetts voters support the right to safe, legal abortion. There are serious gaps in our laws that delay and deny patients care. This legislative session, will your office advocate for the swift passage of the ROE Act?

This event is organized by Our Bodies Ourselves Today. OBOST is building the essential 21st century resource for women’s health, sexuality and well-being. Visit ourbodiesourselvestoday.org for more information.

Infographics and talking points are adapted from Planned Parenthood Advocacy Fund of MA, Inc.