

*Everything you need to know about (HD.2651 / SD.1742)*

# PRIORITIZING PATIENT ACCESS TO CARE ACT

Introduced by Sen. Kennedy and Reps. Barber and Sabadosa, the law will allow doctors and patients to make informed health care decisions.

## The Problem:

- ◆ Despite progress expanding access to abortion in recent sessions, Massachusetts statute still includes an arbitrary 24-week restriction on abortion care—a ban that has no basis in medical science and does not account for the many complexities of pregnancy. Even with exceptions in the law, this restriction forces dozens of patients to travel out of state for abortion later in pregnancy every year, proof that exception frameworks do not work in practice.
- ◆ Traveling outside of the commonwealth for abortion care is exorbitantly expensive, as patients cannot use their insurance to cover the procedure and they have to cover the cost of flights and hotel accommodations. Traveling outside of our borders also puts Massachusetts residents at serious risk of criminalization in a second Trump administration, and forces them to leave their trusted doctors and community support.
- ◆ At no point in pregnancy is a politician who writes a law more qualified to make decisions about abortion than a doctor. Health care decisions, including abortion, should be guided by medicine and science, not political opinion or arbitrary statutes. As we prepare for more attacks on abortion and interstate travel from the Trump administration, Massachusetts must update its law to trust doctors and patients — not politicians — to make informed health care decisions.

## The Solution:

- ◆ The Prioritizing Patient Access to Care Act, introduced by Senator Robyn Kennedy and Representatives Christine Barber and Lindsay Sabadosa, would allow abortion to be provided in Massachusetts after 24 weeks based on the professional judgment of a licensed physician. This change to Massachusetts law would enable doctors to give their patients the best medical care possible, without government interference.
- ◆ Abortions later in pregnancy are not done for convenience. These are serious medical procedures, often necessary due to unexpected complications, life circumstances, or devastating diagnoses. Updating the law means that patients and doctors who carefully consider these decisions can prioritize health, safety, and compassion in the most challenging circumstances.



### Did You Know?

**66%** 

of Massachusetts residents support changing state law to expand access to abortion later in pregnancy

**Learn more by visiting:**  
[reproequitynow.org/prioritizing-patients-act](https://reproequitynow.org/prioritizing-patients-act)