## North Carolina NOW

Post Office Box 24995 • Raleigh •North Carolina • 27611 • Telephone • (919) 539-7702

December 2022

"With sorrow—for this Court, but more, for the many millions of American women who have today lost a fundamental constitutional protection—we dissent." - Supreme Court Justices Breyer, Sotomayor and Kagan in their dissent of Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization

## Dear Friend,

January 22, 2023 would have marked the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, which said that women have the right to decide whether or not to carry a pregnancy to term. However, in a bombshell decision last June, the Supreme Court of the United States rescinded women's rights when it issued the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision. As expected, about half the states outlawed or severely restricted abortions as a result of Dobbs. These bans and related laws are having devastating physical and emotional effects on girls, women, families, doctors, medical professionals, and more. The burden falls hardest on those who already face systemic racism and discrimination in this country, those with low incomes, and those who live in rural areas. There must be more support for babies, and the women and children forced to bear them. The national newsmagazine *The Atlantic* warns that "we are not prepared for the coming surge of babies," and that "the post-Roe rise in births in the U.S. will be concentrated in some of the worst states for infant and maternal health."

Abortion is still legal in North Carolina right now. We still have about 16 clinics around the state, although mainly in big cities. 91% of counties don't have abortion clinics. Due to Dobbs, patients from surrounding states are coming here for abortion care. The NC General Assembly is expected to try to further restrict or to ban safe and legal abortion in the January session. Legislative leaders have made their opinions against abortion clear in interviews and also by allocating an unbelievable \$19 million dollars to anti-abortion clinics in recent budgets.

## Here in North Carolina it is more important than ever to keep abortion safe and legal.

North Carolina NOW is again sponsoring a full 2 page Signature Ad in support of safe and legal abortion for all women, girls and other pregnant individuals, regardless of economic status. The 2023 ad will appear in Indy Week, the Triangle's progressive weekly periodical, on Wednesday, January 25, 2023. You can <u>sign on to the ad online at https://wp.me/P22b2e-9S</u>.

This signature ad demonstrates broad popular support for safe and legal abortion and birth control. At the same time, this signature ad tells those who want to undermine women's control over their own bodies that there is strong and organized opposition to their position. The wording in the ad is

"We, the undersigned, support women's right to safe, legal and accessible birth control and abortion. We condemn acts of violence and intimidation directed at women and their health care providers. We agree that these rights extend to all women regardless of economic status and where they live, and as taxpayers, we affirm our support of public funding for family planning services and funding for abortions for indigent women."

We guarantee that this message will reach every North Carolina legislator because North Carolina NOW volunteers deliver a copy of the ad with a letter to every member of the General Assembly.

<u>Please fill out and return the form on the back of this letter along with your contribution today.</u> Or use this link to sign up online: <u>https://wp.me/P22b2e-9S</u>. If you do not want your name to appear in the ad, please indicate your wish on the form. Please be as generous as you can. We deeply appreciate your support.

For NC NOW,

Hailya Paliza

Gailya Paliga, President

North Carolina NOW (N. C. National Organization for Women) P.O. Box 24995 Raleigh, NC 27611

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URGENT! Take action now!

## SIGN UP FOR CHOICE!

"We, the undersigned, support women's right to safe, legal and accessible birth control and abortion. We condemn acts of violence and intimidation directed at women and their health care providers. We agree that these rights extend to all women regardless of economic status and where they live, and as taxpayers, we affirm our support of public funding for family planning services and funding for abortions for indigent women."

 $\square$  YES, I want my name in the ad (print name below as it should appear).

 $\square$  NO, I don't want my name to appear, but I want to help.

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Contributions to N	NC NOW are not tax	deductible	because NO	W takes ac	etion to pron	note social change.