



**Resound
Research**
for Reproductive Health

Timeline of Family Planning and Abortion Legislation in Texas: 2011 – 2025

2011

September 1, 2011

Texas' Family Planning Budget Is Cut by Two-Thirds. Texas enacts legislation cutting funding for family planning services by two-thirds—from \$111 million to \$37.9 million for the 2012-2013 budget period. The remaining funds are allocated through a three-tiered priority system, placing specialized family planning providers, such as Planned Parenthood, in the lowest tier.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2011/08/15/day-15/>

October 25, 2011

Texas Files to Exclude Planned Parenthood from the 90 Percent Federally Funded Medicaid Waiver Program. Texas submits a renewal application for the state Medicaid waiver program, the Women's Health Program, seeking to exclude organizations affiliated with abortion providers, such as Planned Parenthood, from participating. <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMsa1511902>

2012

January 13, 2012

Texas Requires a Sonogram Before Abortion. House Bill 15 modified the 2003 “Woman’s Right to Know” act by requiring that the same physician who will carry out an abortion performs an ultrasound 24 hours beforehand. Therefore, this law mandates that people seeking abortion come to the facility for two visits at least 24 hours apart, unless they live more than 100 miles away from the nearest clinic, in which case the waiting period is reduced to two hours.

<http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/BillSummary.aspx?LegSess=82R&Bill=HB15>

March 2012

Request to Exclude Planned Parenthood from the 90 Percent Federally Funded Medicaid Waiver Program Is Denied. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services decline the state’s Women’s Health Program renewal application (see October 25, 2011) because the exclusion criteria would restrict women’s ability to choose qualified providers, a restriction prohibited under federal law.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4386528/>

December 31, 2012

Federal Funding for the Women's Health Program is Discontinued. The Women's Health Program loses federal funding after the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services decline its renewal application (see March 2012).

2013

January 1, 2013

The State Begins Administering the Texas Women's Health Program. The Texas Women's Health Program launches, replacing the Women's Health Program (see December 31, 2012). The legislature uses state revenue to cover the annual \$30 million gap left by the discontinued federal funding. Organizations affiliated with abortion providers are excluded from the state program following an unsuccessful October 2012 lawsuit challenging the exclusion of Planned Parenthood affiliates.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4386528/>

March 25, 2013

Federal Title X Funding Is Awarded to a Coalition of Texas Health Providers Instead of the Texas Department of State Health Services; Some Family Planning Funding Restored. The federal government awards the federal Title X family planning grant to the Women's Health and Family Planning Association of Texas (now Every Body Texas), a coalition of Texas health providers including Planned Parenthood, instead of to the state government. The Texas legislature allocates \$43 million to the Department of State Health Services, which had previously administered the Title X grant, to fund the state family planning programs that were cut by two-thirds in 2011.

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/local-politics/2013/03/26/texas-health-care-coalition-wins-13-million-federal-grant-for-family-planning>

July 10, 2013

State Law Imposes Four New Abortion Restrictions by Passing House Bill 2. This omnibus bill includes four restrictions based on arguments not supported by scientific evidence or medical best practices:

- Abortions are banned at 20 weeks "post-fertilization," or 22 weeks gestational duration (lowered from the 24 weeks "previability" standard established in 2005), with certain exceptions (scheduled to take effect November 1, 2013).
- Physicians performing abortion must have admitting privileges at a hospital within 30 miles of the facility (scheduled to take effect November 1, 2013).
- The provision of medication abortion must follow the outdated protocol described in the original labeling of mifepristone approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (scheduled to take effect November 1, 2013).
- All abortion facilities must meet the standards of ambulatory surgical centers (scheduled to take effect September 1, 2014 but further challenged in court).

In September 2013, the second and third provisions imposed by House Bill 2 are challenged in court by Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas Surgical Health Services and other plaintiffs. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit upholds these parts of the law.

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=832&Bill=HB2>

<https://www.texastribune.org/2013/07/10/take-two-house-debates-proposed-abortion-regulatio/>

September 1, 2013

Expanded Primary Health Care Program Begins. The legislature allocates \$100 million to the new Expanded Primary Health Care Program to provide health care to Texas resident women ages 18 and over with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Primary and preventive care services are the program's central focus, with a goal that 60 percent of women served receive contraceptive services. Program funds can also be used to cover the cost of a range of other services, such as cervical cancer screening and testing and treatment for chronic diseases. <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6056580/>

September 1, 2013

Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force Act Goes Into Effect. Senate Bill 495, passed in May 2013, creates a task force to study maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity. The multidisciplinary advisory committee is comprised of members appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services. Members include a variety of medical professionals and state employees that are stakeholders in the pursuit of reducing pregnancy-related death and severe maternal morbidity in the state.

<https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/83R/billtext/html/SB00495F.HTM>

November 1, 2013

House Bill 2 Abortion Restrictions Go into Effect. The first three provisions of House Bill 2 go into effect (see July 10, 2013).

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/BillSummary.aspx?LegSess=832&Bill=HB2>

2014

October 14, 2014

Whole Woman's Health Appeals House Bill 2 Ambulatory Surgical Center Requirement and Admitting Privileges Requirement to the U.S. Supreme Court. After the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals lifts a lower court's injunction, the ambulatory surgical center requirements go into effect on October 3, reducing the number of open facilities in Texas from 18 to nine. On October 14, 2014, the U.S. Supreme Court permits all licensed facilities statewide to remain open without meeting ambulatory surgical center requirements and prohibits enforcement of the admitting privileges requirement in the plaintiff's facilities in McAllen and El Paso.

<https://www.reproductiverights.org/case/whole-womans-health-v-hellerstedt>

2015

June 1, 2015

Law Makes It More Difficult for Pregnant Minors to Obtain Abortion. Texas passes House Bill 3994, making it harder for pregnant minors to obtain a judicial bypass (court approval to access an abortion without

parental consent, which had been in place since 2000). House Bill 3994 also institutes a requirement that any woman seeking abortion present government-issued identification to prove her age. The law goes into effect January 1, 2016.

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=84R&Bill=HB3994>

2016

January 1, 2016

State Pregnancy Medicaid Will Reimburse Hospitals for the Cost of Postpartum Intrauterine Devices and Implants. A rule change allowing the state's Medicaid policy to reimburse hospitals for the cost of long-acting reversible contraception devices and immediate postpartum insertion goes into effect. Hospitals that choose to offer patients enrolled in Medicaid for Pregnant Women the intrauterine device or implant after giving birth will be reimbursed.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2016/10/18/curb-unintended-pregnancy-texas-turns-iuds-deliver/>

March 26, 2016

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration Approves Updated Labeling for Mifepristone, Medication Used in Medication Abortion. The label change essentially nullifies the restrictions on medication abortion put in place by House Bill 2, bringing medication abortion prescribing guidelines in line with evidence-based practice, reducing the number of required in-person visits, and extending the period when patients can take the pill to 10 weeks.

<https://www.guttmacher.org/article/2016/06/public-health-implications-fda-update-medication-abortion-label>

June 27, 2016

U.S. Supreme Court Rules Two House Bill 2 Abortion Restrictions Unconstitutional. The U.S. Supreme Court rules unconstitutional two provisions of House Bill 2—hospital admitting privileges for physicians and the ambulatory surgical center requirement—in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*. The Court ruled that, if enforced, these regulations would place an undue burden on women's access to abortion while offering limited health benefits.

<https://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/whole-womans-health-v-cole/>

July 1, 2016

Healthy Texas Women Program Begins. In September 2015, the Texas legislature directs the state Health and Human Services Commission to combine the Texas Women's Health Program (see January 1, 2013) and the Expanded Primary Health Care program (see September 1, 2013) into a new program called Healthy Texas Women. The Healthy Texas Women program serves women ages 15 to 44 with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level and provides well-woman care and contraceptive methods. Pregnant women who receive care under Medicaid are automatically enrolled into Healthy Texas Women, reducing gaps in coverage. Minors must obtain parental consent to participate in the program.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2015/09/23/state-womens-health-programs-consolidate-july/>

<http://kxan.com/2016/07/25/new-texas-womens-health-program-has-family-planning-focus/>

December 20, 2016

Texas Delivers Notice of Removal of Planned Parenthood from State Medicaid Program. State health officials deliver a final legal notice of intent to remove Planned Parenthood from the state's Medicaid program, which previously allocated \$3.1 million in Medicaid funding to Planned Parenthood. The removal is challenged and does not go into effect until 2021.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2016/12/20/texas-kicks-planned-parenthood-out-medicaid/>

2017

May 26, 2017

Law Imposes New Abortion Restrictions. Senate Bill 8 (2017) passes, prohibiting clinicians from using dilation and evacuation abortion procedures and requiring abortion-providing facilities to bury or cremate fetal tissue, effective September 1, 2017. Both provisions are challenged. The burial/cremation of fetal remains law will ultimately go into effect in July of 2022, following the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision (see June 24, 2022). The dilation and evacuation ban will go into effect in October/November of 2021, by which point dilation and evacuation will already be prohibited under the 2021 Senate Bill 8 (see May 19, 2021).

<http://www.texasmonthly.com/the-daily-post/abbott-signs-fetal-burial-rule-law-texas-roundup/>

May 27, 2017

Telemedicine for Abortion is Banned. Senate Bill 1107 passes, permitting telemedicine in Texas under certain circumstances. However, the terms of the law prohibit the provision of "abortifacient agents" during a telehealth visit, thereby banning the use of telemedicine for abortion in the state.

<https://www.tpr.org/post/telemedicine-bill-one-step-closer-governors-desk>

June 30, 2017

Texas Files to Receive Federal Funding for Healthy Texas Women Program. Texas submits a new application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services requesting federal funding for the Healthy Texas Women program (see July 1, 2016), which excludes abortion providers and affiliates of abortion providers even if the affiliates do not provide abortion care at their health centers. This funding gets approved in January, 2020.

<https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/policies-rules/waivers/healthy-texas-women-1115-waiver>

August 2017

Two Pieces of Abortion Legislation Pass. House Bill 214 (passed August 9, 2017, effective December 1, 2017) prohibits private health insurance plans from covering most abortions; House Bill 13 (passed August 11, 2017, effective November 14, 2017) requires additional reporting on complications from abortion, which occur very rarely.

<http://www.chron.com/news/politics/texas/article/Texas-closes-in-on-new-regulations-for-abortion-11819359.php>

August 14, 2017

The State's Maternal Mortality Task Force is Extended. Senate Bill 17 passes, extending the state's Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force until 2023. According to a study the year prior in *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, Texas has the highest maternal mortality rate in the developed world.
<https://www.texastribune.org/2017/08/16/abbotts-signature-gives-maternal-mortality-task-force-more-time/>

August 15, 2017

Law Requires Additional Reporting for Abortions Performed on Minors. The Senate passes House Bill 215, which requires additional reporting to the state on abortions performed on patients under age 18, effective November 14, 2017. The additional reporting procedures include a requirement for a physician to state if a doctor or another advocate helped a minor through the judicial bypass process, if parental consent was received, and more.
<https://www.texastribune.org/2017/08/03/house-abortion-reporting-requirements-minors/>

2019

January 7, 2019

"The People's Lawsuit" Challenges Texas Abortion Laws. The lawsuit *Whole Woman's Health v. Paxton*, also known as "The People's Lawsuit," opens in court. NARAL Pro-Choice Texas (name changed to Avow in 2021), along with other Texas abortion funds, providers, and grassroots groups, filed the expansive collective suit on June 14, 2018 to challenge dozens of Texas abortion laws, including the 24-hour pre-abortion sonogram, rules that force doctors to provide misinformation about abortion, and a parental consent law. The plaintiffs later dismissed the case voluntarily following the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* (see June 24, 2022).
<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/courts/2019/01/07/texas-abortion-providers-suit-medically-unnecessary-requirements-goes-trial>

June 7, 2019

City/County Transactions with Abortion Providers Banned. Senate Bill 22 is passed, barring any "taxpayer resource transaction" between a city or county and an abortion provider or affiliate. The bill targets Austin's lease with Planned Parenthood, but reproductive rights advocates note the bill's potentially large reach. Proving this concern prescient, Attorney General Ken Paxton will announce in January of 2020 that this bill prevents pre-tax donations by state employees to Planned Parenthood during the State Employee Charitable Campaign. Related legislation targeting taxpayer funds was passed in 2011, removing state funding from any hospital district that provides elective abortions.
<https://www.austinchronicle.com/news/2019-05-17/texas-anti-choice-legislation-continues-to-damage-health-care-and-undermine-local-control/>

<https://www.texastribune.org/2020/01/10/planned-parenthood-excluded-texas-state-employee-annual-charity-drive/>

June 7, 2019

"A Woman's Right to Know" Booklet Required to be Distributed in Hard Copy. Senate Bill 24, "The Alternatives to Abortion Information Act," passes, clarifying an existing statute to explicitly require that an abortion patient receive a hard copy of the booklet "A Woman's Right to Know," as opposed to having a

conversation regarding or being directed to a website focused on this content. The booklet contains inaccurate information about abortion and risks associated with the procedure.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2019/03/27/3-texas-abortion-bills-pass-committees-gaining-momentum-senate/>

June 14, 2019

Penalties Instituted for Physicians Who Do Not Deliver Resuscitative Care to Fetuses Showing Signs of Life after an Abortion. House Bill 16 names penalties for physicians who do not initiate resuscitative measures and hospital transfer for fetuses showing signs of life after an induced abortion. No professional medical societies recommend fetal resuscitation at or before 22 weeks from last menstrual period. By law, abortion is only provided up to 22 weeks in Texas.

<https://www.texasobserver.org/lies-into-laws-texas-house-passes-born-alive-anti-abortion-bill-despite-protest/>

September 1, 2019

Alternatives to Abortion Program Funding Doubles. The Alternatives to Abortion program (begun in 2005) receives \$80 million toward promoting childbirth and providing support services, primarily to pregnant women. Funded organizations include crisis pregnancy centers in Texas as well as other organizations that provide services such as maternity housing and adoption facilitation. The funding does not go to medical services.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2019/07/23/texas-anti-abortion-contract-may-be-awarded-without-competitive-bid/>

<https://www.austinchronicle.com/news/2018-07-20/crisis-pregnancy-centers-money-for-nothing/>

2020

January 22, 2020

Healthy Texas Women Program Approved for Federal Funding without Provider-of-Choice Rule. The federal government waives the provider-of-choice requirement for Healthy Texas Women, Texas' fee-for-service family planning program, in response to the state's request (see June 30, 2017). As a result, Healthy Texas Women is eligible to receive federal funding despite excluding family planning organizations that also provide abortions, such as Planned Parenthood, from the program. This decision means that \$350 million in federal funding over the next five years will replace the state dollars that had been supporting the program since 2013.

<https://theintercept.com/2020/01/31/texas-medicaid-waiver-provider-of-choice-planned-parenthood/?fbclid=IwAR2t3TjAWULxNrls0QRYZ-V46nIdiDdLIFZwSstWGyUy2LZwi--dOYCjRI>

March 22, 2020

Executive Order Issued Mostly Suspending Abortion Services in Texas. Governor Greg Abbott of Texas issues an executive order stating that all surgeries and procedures that are not "medically necessary" should be postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic, and further communication from Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton clarifies that abortion is included. Amidst legal challenges to the executive order, most clinics in Texas suspend services for approximately four weeks. The order expired on April 21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.

<https://www.motherjones.com/coronavirus-updates/2020/03/abortion-care-coronavirus-texas-ban/>

September 1, 2020

Healthy Texas Women Plus Launches. An enhanced postpartum package for those enrolled in Healthy Texas Women (see July 1, 2016), called Healthy Texas Women Plus, launches. Healthy Texas Women Plus focuses on health conditions that contribute to maternal morbidity and mortality, including postpartum depression, cardiovascular conditions, and substance use disorders. Coverage lasts for 12 months following delivery.

<https://www.tmhp.com/news/2020-08-28-healthy-texas-women-htw-plus-services-available-september-1-2020>

2021

March 10, 2021

Exclusion of Planned Parenthood from the Texas Medicaid Program Goes into Effect. Texas removes Planned Parenthood from the Medicaid program (see December 20, 2016) after five years of legal challenges, following a November 2020 final decision from the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

<https://www.kut.org/health/2021-01-06/texas-gives-medicaid-recipients-using-planned-parenthood-30-days-to-find-a-new-provider>

May 19, 2021

Texas Passes Senate Bill 8. Senate Bill 8 prohibits abortion upon detection of embryonic cardiac activity, which typically occurs five to six weeks after a person's last menstrual period. The law also allows almost anyone to sue abortion providers and others who "aid and abet" abortion. A clause permitting private citizens to bring lawsuits instead of the state makes legal challenges to block enforcement difficult.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2021/05/18/texas-heartbeat-bill-abortions-law/>

May 31, 2021

Alternatives to Abortion Funding Increases to \$100 million. Another \$20 million is added to the Alternatives to Abortion program for the 2022-23 biennium, bringing the total to \$100 million.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2021/06/08/texas-abortion-budget/>

May 25, 2021

Senate Approves House Bill 1280, the "Human Life Protection Act." House Bill 1280, also known as the Texas "trigger ban," passes the Senate. This act makes performing an abortion a first-degree felony, punishable by five years to life in prison and at least a \$100,000 fine. The law is poised to go into effect 30 days after the U.S. Supreme Court issues a judgement overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

<https://www.statesman.com/story/news/2021/05/24/texas-senate-backs-abortion-limits-ban-if-supreme-court-allows/7414044002/>

June 1, 2021

"Sanctuary City for the Unborn" Ordinance Goes into Effect, Banning Abortion City-Wide in Lubbock. In May 2021, Lubbock becomes the largest city in the country to approve a sanctuary city abortion ban, outlawing abortion and allowing extended family of either the pregnant person or the second person involved in the pregnancy to file civil lawsuits against the abortion provider and anyone who aids in abortion.

Beginning in June 2021, Planned Parenthood suspends abortion services at this site; lawsuits to block the ban and reinstate services are not successful. Similar ordinances had been passed in smaller Texas towns and cities, and more were passed after this.

<https://www.lubbockonline.com/story/news/2021/05/01/lubbock-voters-approve-anti-abortion-ordinance-municipal-election/4908890001/>

August 18, 2021

Fifth Circuit Upholds 2017 Dilation and Evacuation Ban. The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals upholds a Texas ban on dilation and evacuation procedures for abortion (see May 26, 2017), the standard method for abortions after 15 weeks of gestation used in 95 percent of abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy nationally. The law previously had been temporarily blocked in August 2017 and ruled unconstitutional in November 2017.

<https://19thnews.org/2021/08/texas-abortion-common-ban-what-that-means/>

August 31, 2021

Senate Bill 4 Passes, Banning Medication Abortion after Seven Weeks and Criminalizing Telehealth and Mailing of Abortion Pills. Senate Bill 4, passed during a second special legislative session, prohibits using any medication for abortion after seven weeks of gestation (a limit already in place via 2021 Senate Bill 8) despite the fact that the Food and Drug Administration authorizes use of medication for abortion up to 10 weeks of gestation. Senate Bill 4 also adds penalties for anyone who prescribes medication abortion pills via telehealth and the mail. The law goes into effect December 2, 2021.

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2021/12/06/1060160624/prescribing-abortion-pills-online-or-mailing-them-in-texas-can-now-land-you-in-j>

September 1, 2021

2021 Senate Bill 8 Goes into Effect, Banning Abortions upon Detection of Embryonic Cardiac Activity; U.S. Supreme Court Declines to Block the Law. Senate Bill 8 (2021) becomes the first “six-week ban” to go into effect in the country. The U.S. Supreme Court declines to block the law, even though similar laws from other states had been found unconstitutional. In the months following the implementation of Senate Bill 8, in-state facility-based abortions decline by about 50 percent and out-of-state travel for abortion surges.

<https://resoundrh.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/TxPEP-2022-out-of-state-travel-brief.pdf>

2022

March 30, 2022

Title X Award Granted to Every Body Texas and Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas. Every Body Texas, formerly known as the Women’s Health and Family Planning Association of Texas, is awarded the major Title X Texas grant; Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas receives a separate award. Every Body Texas has been the primary Title X grantee for the state of Texas since 2013 (see March 25, 2013).

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/03/30/hhs-awards-256-million-to-expand-restore-access-to-equitable-affordable-title-x-family-planning-services-nationwide.html>

June 24, 2022

U.S. Supreme Court Overturns *Roe v. Wade* in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. The U.S. Supreme Court issues its opinion, which had leaked in early May, reversing the constitutional right to abortion set forth in *Roe v. Wade* (1973). Attorney General Ken Paxton announces that the state's 1961 pre-*Roe* ban on abortion will go back into effect immediately and that the state's trigger ban (see May 25, 2021) will go into effect 30 days after the U.S. Supreme Court issues its formal judgement. Upon Paxton's statement, most abortion services in the state are suspended.

<https://www.npr.org/2022/06/24/1102305878/supreme-court-abortion-roe-v-wade-decision-overturn>

<https://resoundrh.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/TxPEP-2022-criminal-abortion-bans-brief.pdf>

June 28, 2022

Fetal Remains Disposal Regulations Allowed to Go into Effect. The Fifth Circuit rules to allow the fetal remains disposal regulations that were enjoined (see May 26, 2017) to go into effect, citing the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling (see June 24, 2022) as grounds for the state to enact abortion regulations. The law, which goes into effect July 20, 2022, requires cremation and/or interment of fetal tissue.

<https://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/18/18-50730-CV0.pdf>

August 25, 2022

Texas "Trigger Ban" Goes into Effect, Criminalizing Most Abortions. House Bill 1280, the "trigger ban" passed during the 2021 regular legislative session (see May 25, 2021), goes into effect. The law prohibits a person from knowingly performing, inducing, or attempting an abortion on another person, with criminal penalties.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2022/07/26/texas-abortion-ban-dobbs/>

December 8, 2022

Ruling requires parental consent for contraception at Title X-funded clinics. A federal district court in Texas rules in *Deanda v. Becerra* that minors in Texas who want to obtain contraception at federal Title X-funded clinics must get parental consent, a departure from previous federal protections on confidential contraception for minors. Although this was appealed, a March 12, 2024 ruling by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals allows Texas's parental consent requirement to stand.

<https://www.everybodytexas.org/our-impact/in-the-news/care-for-adolescents>

2023

January 2023

The Food and Drug Administration stabilizes telehealth access to mifepristone. In response to the COVID pandemic, in 2021, the FDA temporarily changed the in-person dispensing requirement for patients receiving mifepristone, allowing patients to obtain a prescription via telehealth and a pharmacy. In 2023 the FDA permanently adopts this policy.

https://www.fda.gov/drugs/postmarket-drug-safety-information-patients-and-providers/questions-and-answers-mifepristone-medical-termination-pregnancy-through-ten-weeks-gestation?os=__&ref=app#TheJanuary2023REMSModification

September 2023

Alternatives to Abortion (A2A) program is renamed Thriving Texas Families (TTF), receives funding increase. State legislators increase funding for the program with \$125 million for 2023-2024 and \$140 million for 2024-2025, expand its services, and place it in the Health and Human Services Commission.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2024/07/09/texas-crisis-pregnancy-centers-abortion/>

<https://resoundrh.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/ResoundRH-2024-A2A-1.pdf>

September 1, 2023

Law allowing 12-month supply of prescription birth control in one visit goes into effect. Texas women can now receive 12 months of birth control at a time covered by insurance. The measure is meant to reduce gaps in access to contraception between monthly visits to a pharmacy.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2023/06/08/texas-legislature-health-bills/>

2024

March 2024

Extension of Postpartum Medicaid to Twelve Months Passes. Postpartum Medicaid enrollees will now have insurance coverage for twelve months following delivery. Previously, state Medicaid coverage lasted 60 days after giving birth. Notably, this expansion does not apply to the CHIP-Perinatal program, which covers prenatal care for pregnant people who meet the income but not the legal residency requirements for Medicaid. A 2021 bill extending postpartum Medicaid to 6 months never went into effect due to hurdles gaining approval from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2023/05/26/texas-postpartum-medicaid-extension/>

June 13, 2024

The U.S. Supreme Court dismisses FDA v. Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine. If upheld, the lawsuit would have restricted access to abortion medication nationwide. Originally filed in Amarillo, TX on November 18, 2022, the plaintiffs challenged the safety of mifepristone, one of the medications used to end a pregnancy, but the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the plaintiffs lacked standing.

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/texas/article/supreme-court-abortion-ruling-19512520.php>

June 21, 2024

Texas Medical Board approves new guidelines for abortion ban exceptions. After receiving feedback from doctors who said the language of the law was unclear, the Texas Medical Board published guidance for how to interpret medical exceptions to the abortion ban. Some legal and medical experts reacted to the guidance by stating that the Board did not do enough to clarify when doctors could act.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2024/06/21/texas-medical-board-abortion-guidance/>

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38814583/>

September 2024

Committee declines to investigate 2022-2023 pregnancy-related deaths in latest reporting. The Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee (see September 1, 2013) announces it will not review potential pregnancy-related deaths from 2022 and 2023, the first two years after the law banning almost all

abortions in the state went into effect.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/2024/11/26/texas-committee-wont-examine-maternal-deaths-first-years-after-abortion-ban/>

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/texas/article/pregnancy-related-deaths-abortion-ban-19954432.php>

June 20, 2025

A law formalizing medical exceptions under abortion ban goes into effect. Senate Bill 31, a bi-partisan effort, attempts to clarify the circumstances in which a pregnant patient can receive abortion care such as preterm premature rupture of membranes (PPROM), ectopic pregnancy, and miscarriage care. The law also creates a requirement for Texas physicians and lawyers to receive a one-time training to clarify the nuances of the law. Critics of the law say that it doesn't recognize the complexities of pregnancy.

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/outlook/article/abortion-emergency-exemption-legislation-flaw-20244651.php>

<https://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/articles/news/health-science/abortion/2025/05/21/522007/texas-house-passes-life-of-the-mother-act-aiming-to-clarify-when-emergency-abortions-are-allowed/>

September 1, 2025

Local government funds for abortion travel support now prohibited by state law. Senate Bill 33 stops local governments from spending tax dollars on logistical support for constituents traveling to receive abortion care. This law responds to the Austin and San Antonio city councils, in 2024 and 2025 respectively, each creating a fund for local residents to use for travel support while seeking abortion care out of state.

<https://www.kut.org/texas/2025-05-22/texas-house-legislature-passes-bill-cracking-down-on-city-fund-assistance-for-abortion-seekers>

State spending on women's health programs increases slightly. The biennium budget bill passed by the Legislature included a slight increase of spending on women's health programs: Healthy Texas Women, Family Planning Program, and Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening. Notably, funding for women's mobile health units was increased to \$20M from \$10M.

<https://www.texaswhc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/89th-Legislative-Report-Final-1.pdf>

December 3, 2025

A law creating civil penalties for the manufacturing or mailing of abortion medication becomes enforceable. In an attempt to restrict telemedicine abortions provided from out-of-state under shield law protections, lawmakers passed House Bill 7 during a special session. This bill allows private citizens to sue individuals or organizations who prescribe, manufacture, or provide the medications used in abortion care, misoprostol and/or mifepristone, for a minimum of \$100,000. A lawsuit could be filed for up to six years after the inciting event. Texas doctors and medical groups are exempt from liability under this law.

<https://www.texasstandard.org/stories/texas-abortion-pill-bill-hb-7-passes-special-session/>