



Statement of Reproductive Freedom for All
U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government
A Hearing to Promote False Claims about Federal Law Protecting Abortion Clinics
April 28, 2026

We thank you for the opportunity to submit a statement to the U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary’s Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government in response to yet another attempt by anti-abortion extremists in Congress to push disinformation and lies around abortion access and reproductive health care. Despite the hearing’s inflammatory title, the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act (FACE Act) has been a critical safeguard for patients and health care providers against anti-abortion violence and harassment for over thirty years.¹ Attacks on abortion access, including attacks like this against the FACE Act itself, are not based on facts or undertaken because of good faith concerns. These attacks are part of extremists’ broader goal of banning abortion nationwide. Today’s hearing pushes disinformation in order to make it harder for people to get the care they need. Congressional Republicans continue to use disinformation and weaponize existing law because they know that their anti-abortion agenda is deeply unpopular and too out of step with the majority of the American public to pass through the legislative process.²

Reproductive Freedom for All, formerly NARAL Pro-Choice America, is a national advocacy organization dedicated to protecting and advancing reproductive freedom. For over 55 years, Reproductive Freedom for All has fought to protect and advance reproductive freedom at the federal and state levels—including access to abortion care, birth control, pregnancy and post-partum care, and paid family leave. Through education, organizing, and influencing public policy, Reproductive Freedom for All and our 4 million members from every corner of the country work to guarantee every individual the freedom to make personal decisions about their lives, bodies, and futures, free from political interference. The ability for people to be able to access and provide abortion care plays a crucial part in fully realizing reproductive freedom. That is why—in addition to countless efforts to ban and undermine abortion access at the state and federal levels—anti-abortion lawmakers in Congress remain relentless in their efforts to erode the limited federal reproductive health protections we have left following the Supreme Court’s devastating decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. The FACE Act is one such critical protection.

The FACE Act was passed in 1994 with support from both Democrats and Republicans in Congress³ following an increase in violence against patients and providers at reproductive

¹ Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-259, 108 Stat. 694 (1994).

² Charles Gorrivan, Riley Griffin & Rachel Cohrs Zhang, *FDA Slow Walking a Long-Awaited Abortion Pill Safety Study* (Dec. 8, 2026), Bloomberg, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2025-12-08/fda-slow-walking-a-long-awaited-abortion-pill-safety-study>.

³ Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-259, 108 Stat. 694 (1994).

health care clinics—including the tragic murder of Dr. David Gunn, an abortion provider, by an anti-abortion extremist.⁴ The law aims to protect patients and professionals providing care at reproductive health clinics against similar violent attacks by anti-abortion radicals.

Despite the three-plus decades that the FACE Act has pursued justice against perpetrators of violence and intimidation, anti-abortion extremists remain committed to eroding its critical protections. President Trump and Republicans in Congress wasted no time furthering these efforts. Within days of taking office for his second term, Trump pardoned over 20 people convicted of violent offenses under the FACE Act⁵ and his Department of Justice (DOJ) moved to check an item off of Project 2025's agenda by issuing an order to curtail prosecutions under the FACE Act broadly.⁶ Those pardoned were not peaceful protestors; they committed serious acts of violence and harassment. Under the Trump administration, providers and patients are being left to fend for themselves.

Trump continued to appease anti-abortion extremists' demands by nominating people to cabinet and executive roles that would subvert the law to undermine reproductive freedom. This included nominees to key DOJ roles that are instrumental to how—or if—the FACE Act is enforced, such as: then-Attorney General Pam Bondi, Solicitor General D. John Sauer, and the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Harmeet Dhillon.⁷ Trump's DOJ later misused the FACE Act in an attempt to target journalists and demonstrators during the democracy protests in Minnesota.⁸ Trump has continued to weaponize the DOJ for political purposes; as recently as this month, Trump fired four DOJ prosecutors who were involved in cases against anti-abortion activists.⁹

⁴ See American Civil Liberties Union, *ACLU's Role in Stopping Clinic Violence* (April 11, 2001), available at <https://www.aclu.org/documents/aclus-role-stopping-clinic-violence>.

⁵ U.S. Dep't of Just., Office of the Pardon Att'y, *Executive Grant of Clemency* (Jan. 23, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1386366/dl>.

⁶ See Alanna Durkin Richer & Christine Fernando, *Justice Department Curtails Prosecutions for Blocking Access to Reproductive Health Centers*, Associated Press (Jan. 24, 2025), <https://apnews.com/article/justice-department-reproductive-care-clinics-prosecutions-5f693b186d0dd62fc693474aab7b5f3>; see also Reproductive Freedom for All, *Tracking Project 2025: How Much Has Been Implemented So Far?*, Reproductive Freedom for All (last visited Apr. 22, 2026), <https://reproductivefreedomforall.org/resources/tracking-project-2025-how-much-has-been-implemented-so-far>.

⁷ See Reproductive Freedom for All, *Memo: Trump's Plan to Weaponize the DOJ to Undermine Reproductive Freedom* (Feb. 25, 2024), <https://reproductivefreedomforall.org/news/memo-trumps-plan-to-weaponize-the-doj-to-undermine-reproductive-freedom/>.

⁸ Teresa Cisneros Burton, *Abortion Clinics Left Unprotected as DOJ Weaponizes FACE Act Against Journalists and Peaceful Protesters*, MS MAG. (Feb. 3, 2026), <https://msmagazine.com/2026/02/03/doj-face-act-against-journalists-protesters-church-minneapolis-abortion-clinics/>

⁹ Associated Press, *Justice Department fires at least 4 prosecutors involved in FACE Act cases*, AP NEWS (Apr. 14, 2026), <https://apnews.com/article/justice-department-firings-face-act-blanche-048a57124fbd2f290698664807305153>.

On the second day of Trump's current term, anti-abortion lawmakers in Congress re-introduced a bill to repeal the FACE Act entirely.¹⁰ If Republican lawmakers are successful in repealing the FACE Act, it would put countless lives at risk by chilling the ability to provide and receive critical reproductive health care. Clinics continue to face a pattern of sustained and consistent harassment and violence, and FACE Act enforcement is needed now more than ever.

The anti-abortion disinformation this hearing promotes does not change the fact that 8 in 10 Americans support the right to abortion. Americans need and deserve leaders who will condemn violence and harassment against abortion providers and their patients, and work to prevent these tragedies. Instead, anti-abortion extremists continue to push disinformation and lies about reproductive health care to bolster their deeply unpopular agenda. They know the majority of Americans do not support their extreme goals. But because Congressional Republicans have no plans to make health care more affordable and lower costs for everyday people, they continue their baseless attacks against reproductive freedom. The American public will see these attacks for what they are: ideological extremism at the expense of patients, providers, and reproductive freedom.

¹⁰ Rep. Chip Roy, Press Release, *Sen. Lee, Rep. Roy Team Up to Repeal the FACE Act* (Oct. 4, 2023), <https://www.lee.senate.gov/2023/10/sen-lee-rep-roy-team-up-to-repeal-the-face-act>.