



## **CALL TO ACT NOW!**

We are asking all of our supporters to donate to organizations who are assisting those directly impacted by the assault in Texas:

## **DONATIONS ARE NEEDED TO ASSIST THOSE DIRECTLY IMPACTED BY THIS LEGAL ASSAULT IN TEXAS**

Donate to keep clinics open at <https://keepourclinics.org/texas-sb8/>

## **NATIONWIDE AVALANCHE OF NEW ABORTION RESTRICTIONS**

In just the first six months of this year, more than 560 restrictions on anti-abortion laws have been passed in 47 states — including 165 total abortion bans, which would criminalize abortion and severely restrict women's rights.

## **TEXAS PASSES DOUBLE-EDGED LAW, WHICH IS NOW IN EFFECT**

The passage in Texas of SB 8, a double-edged law against reproductive rights held major consequences for women. SB 8 would ban abortions for anyone who is more than six weeks' pregnant, effectively overturning Roe v. Wade in Texas.

Then, on September 1, 2021, this outrageous infringement on reproductive rights went into full force and effect. It is already causing devastating repercussions on abortion access for women in Texas, and soon every state, including California, could make abortion illegal throughout the country.

Since SB 8 bans all abortions after six weeks of pregnancy: this is tantamount to outlawing all abortions, since almost all abortions are performed after the sixth week of pregnancy, because it usually takes four to six weeks for most women to suspect they're pregnant and do a pregnancy test. Texas women missing this deadline will be forced to travel hundreds of miles to another state to obtain abortion care.

SB 8 also empowers private citizens to sue anyone they think has "aided or abetted" a person getting an abortion after the 6 week deadline; it provides a \$10,000 bounty, along with reimbursement of legal fees.

This outrageous law will even have a chilling effect on miscarriage management for physicians and providers, who will now have to document that they have tested for a fetal heartbeat to avoid being sued — and who are likely to step back from providing any abortion and miscarriage care due to the legal risk they now face.

According to legal experts, "aiding and abetting" could be an act as minimal as contacting women's clinics asking about abortion services, or even donating to Planned Parenthood or local independent clinics like Women's Health Specialists.

### **VIGILANCE AND ACTION ARE NEEDED**

We are asking that you stay vigilant in your support of clinics in your local communities in order to meet the new and existing demands of women traveling to achieve their constitutional right to an abortion.

We are asking that you watch for anti-choice legislators in your state introducing and passing similar laws, to prevent grave consequences for women's right to an abortion in Texas and beyond.

### **CALIFORNIA RECALL EFFORT PUTS ABORTION RIGHTS IN PERIL**

The upcoming recall election ballot has a slate full of anti-choice candidates who are determined to end our reproductive rights. If a majority of voters vote “yes” to recall Governor Newsom, the alternative candidate with the highest number of votes automatically becomes governor.

An anti-choice governor in California will provide momentum to send an anti-choice member to Congress, possibly flipping the power balance to anti-choice legislators. Don't let this essential election pass you by — stand with Women's Health Specialists and other independent women's clinics! We need your vote for a pro-choice governor to preserve our state right to abortion.

Independent women's clinics like Women's Health Specialists are getting the word out about this crucial election— women's most important opportunity to preserve reproductive rights in California and beyond.

Without a pro-choice governor, we could lose our right to abortion not only in our state, but across the country, endangering Roe v Wade itself.

### **Katrina Cantrell**

Executive Director

Women's Health Specialists

The Feminist Women's Health Centers of California

Visit [www.CAWHS.org](http://www.CAWHS.org) to donate and learn more about our work