

**UCLA** School of Law  
**Center on Reproductive Health,  
Law, and Policy**

**Immediate Release**

September 22nd, 2025

**Media Contact**

Kelsey Padilla

[padilla@law.ucla.edu](mailto:padilla@law.ucla.edu)

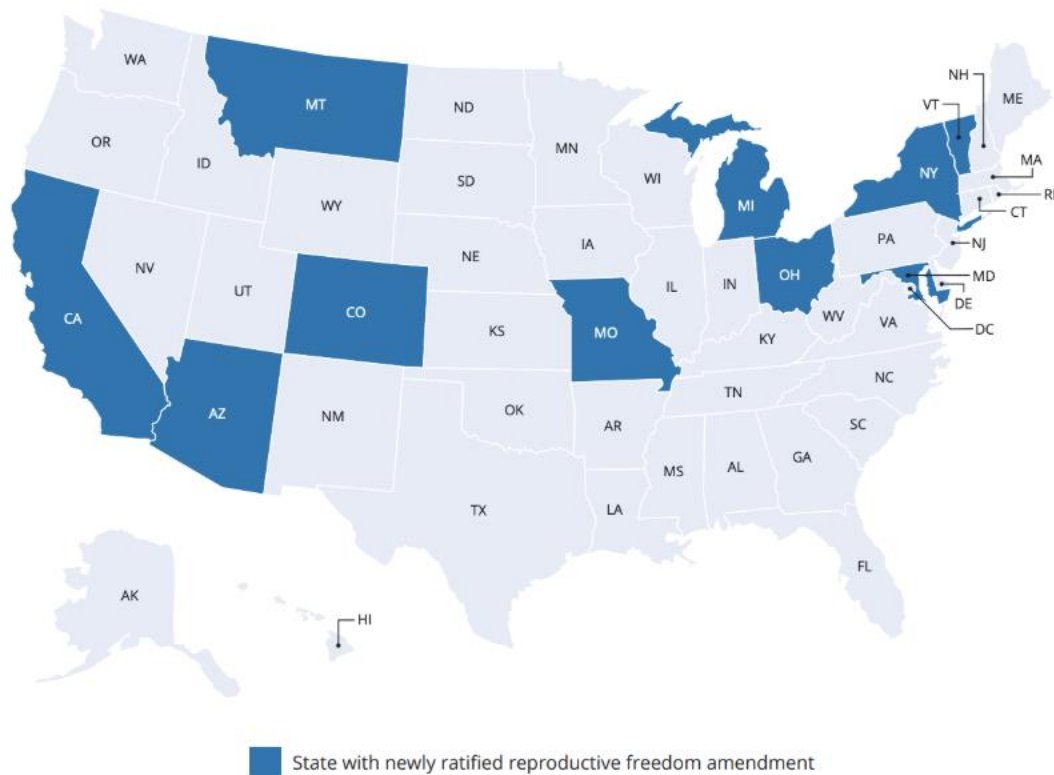
310-267-4382

**State reproductive freedom amendments are reshaping the  
constitutional landscape for abortion rights and beyond.**

Today, the Center on Reproductive Health, Law, and Policy (CRHLP) at UCLA School of Law released a new report, [The Promise of Reproductive Freedom Amendments: An Analysis of State Constitutional Protections and Their Impact on Anti-Abortion Laws.](#)

After the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* eliminated the federal constitutional right to abortion, voters in ten states (Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New York, Ohio, and Vermont) ratified state constitutional amendments codifying the right to abortion and reproductive rights more broadly. These reproductive freedom amendments represent a powerful shift in the state constitutional landscape, and for state court litigation to protect abortion rights. They also offer a new approach to constitutionalizing a wider array of reproductive and bodily autonomy rights.

The new report, linked [here](#), provides a comparative overview of these amendments, including their specific guarantees, constitutional scope, and the standards of judicial review they create. Additionally, the report details dozens of abortion restrictions in these ten states that pose conflicts with the new amendments and summarizes early court decisions determining the constitutionality of those laws.



This report provides a valuable new reference for advocates, courts, policymakers, and journalists seeking to better understand the impact of these amendments, or those considering the development of new amendments in other states.

### Key Takeaways

- The ten reproductive freedom amendments could impact more than 50 abortion laws. More than 50 laws banning or regulating abortion were on the books at the time the amendments were passed. As the report details, some have been permanently or temporarily blocked, but many more remain in effect and open to challenge.
- To date, court decisions in four states have applied the amendments to block abortion restrictions. In Ohio and Arizona, courts have permanently struck down gestational bans under the new amendments, while a Michigan court struck down mandatory counseling, waiting periods, and physician-only requirements as unconstitutional. A Missouri court has twice preliminarily blocked the state's multiple gestational bans.
- Virtually all amendments codify rights beyond abortion. While all amendments protect abortion rights, more than half explicitly name decisions or care related to continuing a pregnancy, and five specifically mention contraception or the right to prevent pregnancy.

This report demonstrates how reproductive freedom amendments have the potential to significantly expand access to abortion and other reproductive health care, but that their impact will depend on how courts and legislatures act to strike down conflicting laws. With expansive language invoking liberty, autonomy, and equality; and provisions explicitly protecting pregnancy decisions and care,

birth, family planning, and reproductive freedom broadly, these voter initiatives extend far beyond abortion rights and must be enforced by courts and legislature alike to advance reproductive justice.

To learn more about the report and hear from advocates leading litigation to secure the protections guaranteed under these new amendments join our upcoming webinar: Realizing the Promise of State Reproductive Freedom Amendments on Date.

Pre-register for the webinar at this [link](#) and read the full report [here](#).

XXX

*The Center on Reproductive Health, Law, and Policy at UCLA Law* is an independently funded think tank and research center developing long-term, lasting solutions that advance all aspects of reproductive justice and address the current national crisis of abortion access. We are lawyers, policy experts, scholars, and researchers who are working to increase access to abortion and contraception, end racial and economic disparities in maternal health outcomes, support people who decide to build families, and dismantle the gender bias that limits reproductive justice.