



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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July 14, 2022

The Honorable Anthony Portantino
Senate Appropriations Committee, Chair
State Capitol, Room 412
Sacramento, CA 95814

ASSEMBLY BILL 1242 (BAUER-KAHAN)
SUPPORT
Senate Appropriations Committee

Dear Senator Portantino:

The Los Angeles District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 1242 (Bauer-Kahan).

AB 1242 would prohibit a California peace officer from arresting any person for performing or aiding in the performance of an abortion within this state, or obtaining an abortion in this state, if the abortion falls within the protections of the Reproductive Privacy Act. AB 1242 also provides that a California peace officer shall not cooperate with or provide information to any individual or agency or department from another state regarding a lawful abortion protected under the Reproductive Privacy Act.

The Reproductive Privacy Act provides that every individual possesses a fundamental right of privacy with respect to personal reproductive decisions in the State of California.

Due to the Supreme Court ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, states are allowed to legislate on the legality of abortion procedures within each state without running afoul of *Roe v. Wade*. It is widely expected that half of the states will either outlaw or severely restrict access to abortion.

Because the likelihood that a majority of states will have laws that criminalize access to abortion services in place by the start of 2023, California is taking steps to ensure that access to abortion services is not interrupted or restricted in this state.

One of these measures is AB 1242 which is meant to shield California healthcare providers from criminal liability in another state for actions that take place in this state. While existing law would allow a Governor to refuse to extradite a healthcare provider for performing abortion services in California, there is a concern that a healthcare worker could be arrested on an out-of-state warrant if they were to come into contact with law enforcement. AB 1242 addresses this

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situation by preventing a California peace officer from taking an individual into custody on an out-of-state warrant for providing legally protected abortion services within the State of California.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Daniel Felizzatto in my Sacramento Legislative Office at (916) 442-0668.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gascón", written in a cursive style.

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney

cc: Assembly Member Bauer-Kahan