



REPRODUCTIVE EQUITY NOW

Dear Senate President [Name] and House Speaker [Name],

We, the undersigned [State] physicians, nurses, and advanced practice clinicians, strongly support passage of the ACCESS Bill. We urge the Legislature to pass the ACCESS Bill this session to ensure that [State] residents can plan if and when they want to start a family, have healthier pregnancies, time births, and achieve their desired family size. Ultimately, this improves family stability and the well-being of children.

Approximately 1.2 million unintended pregnancies in the United States annually are attributed to inconsistent or incorrect use of contraception. Ensuring contraceptive equity through requiring insurance to cover and allow for dispensal of a year's supply of contraceptives without co-pays at point of sale is one method to help eliminate inconsistent use. A woman who receives a one-year supply of oral contraceptives is more likely to continuously and consistently use her contraceptives, while a woman who receives only a one or three month supply is more likely to switch methods, experience lapses in contraception use, or abandon contraceptives entirely.

A one year supply of contraceptives decreased the likelihood of an unintended pregnancy by 30%.

In 2013 the Center for Disease Control and Prevention released a recommendation that contraception should be dispensed for twelve months. Currently, patients are not typically expected to see their physician more than once a year to receive and/or renew a prescription for a contraceptive method. Typically, prescriptions are written for 12-month supplies, although insurance companies will often only cover the cost for 1-3 months at a time. Access to insurance coverage of contraceptives increases usage rate. The ACCESS Bill will help make sure our patients in [State] can acquire the recommended dispensement without cost-sharing.

As health care providers, we call on the [State] Legislature to pass the ACCESS Bill now to safeguard the health and well-being of our patients.

We call on the legislature to pass the ACCESS Bill this legislative session so we can better serve our patients and help them access the health care they need.

Sincerely,
[Signatories]