

ABOUT US | OUR IMPACT

PRO-CHOICE WASHINGTON

September 2021



ABOUT

Pro-Choice Washington is the leading grassroots advocacy organization for reproductive freedom in Washington state. We believe every person deserves equitable access to affordable, unbiased, quality abortion and reproductive healthcare within their community.

Our organization is powered by the voices of more than 25,000 members across the state who are speaking up for reproductive rights through advocacy, community engagement, and education.

HOW WE DRIVE CHANGE

Pro-Choice Washington protects and promotes every person's right to access the full range of reproductive healthcare choices, including safe and legal abortion, through the following approaches.



Pro-Choice Washington
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Grassroots Advocacy and Activism

Pro-Choice Washington provides the resources, tools, and opportunities for individuals across Washington to take direct action in support of reproductive freedom. This includes emailing, calling, letter-writing, and petition-signing to demand stronger reproductive healthcare policies.

Deep Organizing

Pro-Choice Washington educates members to help develop the skills and power to drive change. Through organic leadership of organizing groups like the Pro-Choice Washington Troublemakers, Students United for Reproductive Freedom, Huskies for Reproductive Freedom, and Cougs for Reproductive Freedom, constituent voices are a driving force in our advocacy work.

Grassroots and Direct Lobbying

Pro-Choice Washington conducts lobbying trainings for our members to help them influence the decisions of their legislators and elected officials. With these tools, members might take direct action - emailing, calling, or 1:1 meetings with lawmakers - or use personal platforms to bring awareness to an issue.

Constituent & Voter Education

Pro-Choice Washington provides the resources, tools, and opportunities for individuals across Washington to take direct action in support of reproductive freedom. This includes emailing, calling, letter-writing, and petition-signing to demand stronger reproductive healthcare policies.

Lawmaker Education

Pro-Choice Washington informs, updates, and provides tools to lawmakers (talking points, briefings, info sheets) about our legislative priorities and key reproductive freedom issues. Lawmakers use these during floor debates and bill hearings to argue in favor of reproductive freedom legislation.

Lawmaker Accountability

Pro-Choice Washington and its membership publicly thank bold leaders on reproductive freedom and call-out decision-makers not upholding their commitments or taking actions that reduce healthcare access for all people. Our staff, board members, and lobbyists also participate in coalition action to identify bad actors and to publicly hold them accountable.

Candidate Endorsement and Support

Pro-Choice Washington PAC members interview, evaluate, and endorse pro-choice candidates at all levels of state and local government. The PAC makes donations to priority candidates, and coordinates a robust field effort, including door-knocking and phone calls, with Pro-Choice Washington's organizing staff.

Reproductive Freedom Research

Pro-Choice Washington conducts original research on the state of reproductive freedom in Washington to highlight threats to abortion and other reproductive services, such as the connection between white nationalist and anti-choice groups, and the geographic distribution of restrictions to care across healthcare systems.



Community Building

Pro-Choice Washington fosters a large community of people dedicated to the protection of reproductive freedom through organizing events, volunteer opportunities, coalition meetings, and 1:1 relationships. An estimated 77% of people believe in the right to abortion, so Pro-Choice Washington brings the pro-choice majority together for support and to demonstrate the power of this movement.

In 1991, Pro-Choice Washington removed restrictions on legal abortion in Washington by helping to pass **the Freedom of Choice Act (I-120)**, ending requirements for residency, parental and guardian approval for under age 18, and the a husband's consent. Since then, Pro-Choice Washington has steadily expanded access to reproductive freedom across the state.

Since 2017 alone, Pro-Choice Washington helped pass **11 critical bills** to advance reproductive freedom. These bills have made it easier to procure birth control and emergency contraception, strengthened parental leave policies, ensured comprehensive sexuality education no matter a student's zip code, and made it illegal to deny life-saving care to pregnant patients experiencing miscarriages or ectopic pregnancies.

Pro-Choice Washington also secured a pro-choice majority in the Washington State Legislature. **In 2017, we flipped party control of the State Senate for the first time in 5 years.** In 2018, we flipped a critical Senate seat, ousting a long time anti-choice competitor, and in 2020, we helped elect 11 new progressive candidates.

And our work has just begun. Help us achieve our vision. Join our movement.

