



Progress Snapshot

The 2025 session brought major challenges: a \$16 billion state budget deficit and federal attacks on bodily autonomy. Pro-Choice Washington and our partners pushed hard to make sure Washington remains a beacon for reproductive freedom.

In January, our annual Lobby Day was a huge success, with:

- **Statewide** activist representation
- **40+** lawmaker meetings
- Rally at the capitol with **50+** attendees, elected officials, and community leaders
- Media coverage in *Seattle Times*, *Spokesman Review*, *King5*, and other local outlets

Thanks to our advocacy, we passed four critical bills to:

- Shield patients, providers, and helpers from out-of-state legal threats
- Prevent criminalization of pregnancy loss
- Strengthen student privacy and safe learning environments
- Codify emergency protections for pregnant patients into law

Pro-Choice Washington remains committed to holding elected officials accountable and to fighting for sustainable reproductive health care funding throughout the year.

2025 Post-Session Update

Priority Legislation

Funding for Clinics: Medicaid Rates and the Abortion Access Project

To ensure clinics can maintain access to the full range of sexual and reproductive health services, Pro-Choice Washington and partners urged lawmakers to update Medicaid rates. Funding for the Abortion Access Project (AAP), which was created post-Roe to ensure that safety net abortion providers could continue to serve patients, maintain staffing, and keep their doors open, was also prioritized.

Why it matters: While there are strong legal protections for abortion and gender-affirming care patients in Washington state, a lack of sustainable funding for our state's safety net abortion providers threatens access to reproductive and sexual health services for Washingtonians and those traveling to our state for care.

Current Status: **Undetermined**

- Medicaid rates were maintained, not increased. For now, clinics must continue absorbing costs.
- Clinics have been assured that Medicaid reimbursements are staying the same. However, there are concerned about future federal actions that could impact it.
- AAP was cut by 55% (\$8.5 million), threatening access when Title X was also gutted by 55%.

Strengthening Washington's Shield Law

This bill clarifies the 2023 law with new protections for patients, providers, and helpers from out-of-state prosecutions and requires businesses to report legal requests for protected health information.

Why it matters: In a hostile federal climate, this law strengthens legal safety for the full care network.

Current Status: **PASSED** ✓

Establishing Dignity in Pregnancy Loss

Prohibits criminal investigations of pregnancy loss and requires jails, prisons, and detention facilities to report pregnancy losses annually.

Why it matters: Over 1,300 people have been prosecuted for pregnancy outcomes. This law ensures every Washingtonian who experiences a pregnancy loss retains the ability to make decisions about their care and emotionally process their loss.

Current Status: **PASSED** ✓

Amending I-2081 and the Safety Act

Fixes vague language in I-2081 to align with existing law, reinforcing student rights, privacy, and inclusive learning environments.

Why it matters: Ensures schools are safe, affirming spaces with a law that was shaped by input from educators, parents, LGBTQ+ advocates, and students.

Current Status: **PASSED** ✓

Providing Medication Abortion on College Campuses

This bill would require public colleges and universities in Washington state to provide medication abortion.

Why it matters: This bill aims to ensure that students have physical and virtual access to medication abortion services to reduce barriers to care for students. It will expand access for college students, alleviate wait times, strain, and demand on local clinics and resources.

Current Status: **STALLED**

- This bill did not move forward largely due to the state's \$16 billion budget deficit. New programs with large financial implications died early on in session.

Codifying EMTALA into state law

Embeds federal EMTALA rules into state law and protects emergency abortion care access.

Why it matters: The Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) was passed in 1986 to ensure access to emergency abortion care. However, due to a new federal administration, new Congress and pending court cases, the law is at risk. This law shields these rights from federal rollbacks.

Current Status: **PASSED** ✓

Support Legislation

Progressive Revenue Reform

Advocated for tax fairness to prevent cuts to essential services like reproductive care.

Why it matters: Washington's regressive tax code limits public service funding. Equity requires taxing the wealthy fairly.

Current Status: **Undetermined**

- Initial House/Senate budget proposals included historic revenue reforms.
- Governor Ferguson opposed heavier tax reliance; final budget was weaker.
- Estate and capital gains taxes increased, but major gaps remain.

Health Equity for Immigrants

Maintains the Apple Health Care Expansion for undocumented immigrants.

Why it matters: Expands coverage to an estimated 12,000 low-income immigrants and refugees.

Current Status: **Maintained in Final Budget** ✓

Police Accountability

Supported four bills to improve police accountability and reduce violence.

Why it matters: Police brutality is among the biggest threats to healthy and safe Black families in America. Increased stress and trauma of structural racism for Black parents and families are linked with higher infant and maternal mortality rates.

Current Status: **All four bills stalled**

