

Pro-Reproductive Freedom Senators: 19

Pro-Reproductive Freedom Delegates: 48

Bills defeated: 8

## Dear friend,

We've been rocked by the Supreme Court's intentions to overturn Roe v. Wade. We are feeling shock, fear, anger, and grief. But what I want you to know is that our team is NOT giving up. We intend to keep Virginia a safe haven for people who need abortion care. We have made so much progress in the Commonwealth for reproductive freedom, and we will not go back. Not now. Not ever.

That is why it is so essential that you have this year's Legislative Scorecard. This will help you know where your delegate and state senator stand on protecting your fundamental human rights. Do they share your values and principles? Are they willing to stand up and fight for your reproductive rights?

The 2022 General Assembly session was tense. We, our coalition partners, and our legislative allies closely monitored bills that could be amended. We feared antiabortion politicians would do what they did in 2011 and attach an anti-abortion amendment to an innocuous hospital code bill to circumvent committees and drive it to the floor where they likely had the votes to pass it. We tracked dozens of bills relating to nursing homes, telehealth, hospitals, etc., in preparation for such a scenario. We also watched the budget. Thankfully, none of our fears came to fruition this time.

Our Legislative Scorecard serves as a guide to show you, legislators, candidates, activists, and voters what it takes to be a champion for reproductive rights and freedom, to destigmatize abortion, birth control, and sex ed, and make sure they are accessible. It will also help you determine who deserves your vote on Election Day.

At this moment, Virginia is in a precarious position. Our rights now hang by a <u>one-vote margin</u> after losing our pro-reproductive freedom trifecta in November's elections. As you recall, we made significant advances for abortion access during the two years of the pro-reproductive freedom trifecta by repealing some of the most burdensome and medically unnecessary restrictions on abortion in the Virginia code. We were well on our way to being a safe haven. But with our recent political and judicial setbacks, we cannot take our rights and access for granted. We must hold our elected leaders accountable and make sure they know where we stand on these most fundamental human rights.

With Roe all but gone, our state-based work is more critical than ever. Every day, we must work together to preserve and advance reproductive freedom for every Virginian. We must also be a refuge for those who will lose their rights in other states. We cannot fail. We will not.

Keep fighting, Tarina Keene, Executive Director

## BILLS SCORED AND DESCRIPTIONS

#### Mandated, Biased Counseling of Pregnant People

(Delegate Karen Greenhalgh, HB212) - A bill that would have required abortion providers to give their patients state-mandated biased, stigmatizing, medically inaccurate "counseling."

#### **Interference in Family Medical Decisions**

(Delegate Nick Freitas, HB304) - A bill that would have allowed politicians to directly interfere in the doctor-patient relationship by forcing medical providers to apply a one-size-fits-all approach to their pregnant patients.

#### Personhood Bills

(Delegate Rob Bell, HB744 + Senator Mark Obenshain, SB122) - These bills established personhood rights for the fetus and would have further criminalized abortion by making any person who "kills the fetus of another intentionally or accidentally guilty of voluntary manslaughter."

#### 20-Week Abortion Ban

(Senator Amanda Chase, SB710) - A bill that would have outlawed abortion after 20-weeks gestation with only a "life" endangerment of the pregnant person exception.

#### Renaming the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

(Delegate Nick Freitas, HB1300) - A bill that would have taken "Equity" out of the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and replaced it with "Opportunity," changing the scope of the job to include being "an ambassador for unborn children."

#### **Censoring Healthcare Information for Minors**

(Delegate Kathy Byron, HB156) - A bill that would have censored the information that the Department of Health could share with minors regarding sexual health and education.

#### Parental Consent Requirement for Family Life Programs

(Delegate Dave LaRock, HB789) - A bill that would have prohibited students from participating in Family Life Education programs and resources offered by VDH contractors without parental consent and required that a summary of the curriculum be distributed to parents.

#### **Required Notification of Sexual Education Materials**

(Delegate Tara Durant, HB1009 + Senator Siobhan Dunnavant, SB656) - A bill that would have required parents be notified of any "sexually explicit education materials" and provide an alternative education program.

## **Scoring Criteria**

Pro-Choice Virginia (PCVA) enhanced its scorecard criteria in 2020. The new criteria includes both the votes cast during the 2022 legislative session, their engagement on the reproductive rights during session and the 2021 election cycle, and a legislator's overall history supporting reproductive rights and access.

Our goal is to celebrate lawmakers who go above and beyond just casting the right vote, but who take additional strides by standing up and speaking out publicly and proudly for reproductive freedom, which includes - but is not limited to - abortion, birth control, pregnancy discrimination, maternal health, paid leave, etc.

The goal is for every legislator to be a **Champion** for reproductive freedom as we strive to combat shame and stigma, particularly around abortion, and work to strengthen support and access for reproductive health, rights, and justice for each and every Virginian.

It is more important than ever that our legislative allies not only take action to stop antiabortion attacks but also use their platforms to **speak up boldly for abortion rights**. That's why we are giving extra recognition to legislators who advocate for abortion rights in speeches on the House or Senate floor, events, etc. It's never a bad time to show support for reproductive freedom!

## **Scoring**

	Grade/Designation	Description
	A+ - Champion	A legislator who has demonstrated bold leadership on PCVA's legislative agenda and works in partnership with us to advance our shared goal to improve access to abortion, birth control, and comprehensive, medically accurate sex ed. They never miss an opportunity to show their support for reproductive freedom.
	A - Leader	A legislator who consistently supports our legislative agenda, co-patrons proactive bills protecting access to safe, legal abortion, reproductive healthcare, and comprehensive sex education. They occasionally take opportunities to speak out on reproductive freedom.
	B - Ally	A legislator who mostly votes in favor of abortion and other reproductive healthcare services but not all of their votes are consistent with PCVA's values. They generally also do not publicly show their support.
_	C/D - Challenger	A legislator who opposes the right to abortion through their votes, patrons/co-patrons bills, and publicly with their words. However, they may support birth control access and/or comprehensive sexual education initiatives.
	F - Opponent	A legislator who vocally opposes and/or advocates against abortion rights and access and/or votes consistently against PCVA's values and patrons legislation restricting abortion and reproductive healthcare and education.

## **Senate Scores**

## A+ - Champions

George Barker	A+
John Bell	A+
Jennifer Boysko 💉	A+
Adam Ebbin	A+
Barbara Favola 💉	A+
Ghazala Hashmi 💉	A+
Janet Howell 💉	A+

Mamie Locke <	A+
Louise Lucas 💉	A+
Jennifer McClellan 💉	A+
Jeremy McPike	A+
Richard "Dick" Saslaw	A+
Lionell Spruill, Sr.	A+

## A-B - Leaders & Allies

Creigh Deeds	Α
John Edwards	Α
David Marsden	Α
Monty Mason	Α

A
В
В

## C/D - Challengers

Bill DeSteph	С
Emmett Hanger, Jr.	С
Ryan McDougle	D
John Cosgrove, Jr.	D
Stephen Newman	D

Siobhan Dunnavant, M.D.	D
Thomas Norment, Jr.	D
Todd Pillion	D
Richard Stuart	D
Jill Holtzman Vogel	D

## F - Opponents

Amanda Chase	F
Travis Hackworth	F
Jen Kiggans	F
Joseph Morrissey	F
Mark Obenshain	F

Bryce Reeves	F
Frank Ruff, Jr.	F
Mark Peake	F
William Stanley, Jr.	F
David Suetterlein	F

## **Delegate Scores**

## A+ - Champions

Elizabeth Bennett-Parker	A+
Jeffrey Bourne	A+
Eileen Filler-Corn	A+
Jackie Glass	A+
Wendy Gooditis	A+
Elizabeth Guzman	A+
Dan Helmer ≮	A+
Charniele Herring 💉	<b>A</b> +

Patrick Hope	A+
Sally Hudson 💉	A+
Mark Keam	A+
Kaye Kory ≮	A+
Alfonso Lopez	A+
Michael Mullin	A+
Marcia Price	A+
Don Scott, Jr.	A+

Briana Sewell	A٠
Irene Shin	A+
Marcus Simon 💉	A+
Shelly Simonds	A+
Suhas Subramanyam	A٠
Luke Torian	A٠
Kathy Tran	A+
Schuyler VanValkenburg	A+

## A-B - Leaders & Allies

Dawn Adams	Α
Lamont Bagby	Α
Betsy Carr	Α
Nadarius Clark	Α
Kelly Convirs-Fowler	Α
Karrie Delaney	Α
Cliff Hayes, Jr.	Α
Clinton Jenkins	Α

Paul Krizek	Α
Michelle Maldonado	Α
Delores McQuinn	Α
Candi Mundon King	Α
Kathleen Murphy	Α
Kenneth Plum	Α
Sam Rasoul	Α
David Reid	Α

Danica Roem	Α
Mark Sickles	Α
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Α
Jeion Ward	Α
Vivian Watts	Α
Rodney Willett	Α
Angelia Williams Graves	Α
David Bulova	В

## C/D - Challengers

Carrie Coyner	С
Tim Anderson	D
Amanda Batten	D
Robert Bloxom Jr.	D
Mike Cherry	D
Glenn Davis, Jr.	D
James Edmunds II	D

Keith Hodges	D
Barry Knight	D
James Leftwich Jr.	D
Daniel Marshall III	D
Joseph McNamara	D
Will Morefield	D

Israel O'Quinn	D
Kim Taylor	D
Otto Wachsmann Jr.	D
William Wampler III	D
Lee Ware	D
Scott Wyatt	D

## F - Opponents

Leslie Adams	F
Terry Austin	F
John Avoli	F
Jason Ballard	F
Robert Bell	F
Emily Brewer	F
Kathy Byron	F
Jeffrey Campbell	F
Ronnie Campbell	F
A.C. Cordoza	F
Tara Durant	F
Matthew Fariss	F

Buddy Fowler Jr.	F
Nick Freitas	F
Todd Gilbert	F
Karen Greenhalgh	F
Chris Head	F
Terry Kilgore	F
David LaRock	F
Marie March	F
John McGuire III	F
Robert Orrock Sr.	F
Margaret Ransone	F
Roxann Robinson	F

Chris Runion	F
Phillip Scott	F
Anne Ferrell Tata	F
Wendell Walker	F
Michael Webert	F
Bill Wiley	F
Wren Williams	F
Tony Wilt	F
Thomas Wright Jr.	F

#### ADVOCACY AND NEXT STEPS

Our advocacy work during the 2022 General Assembly session was significantly impacted by the 2021 General Election, which flipped all three statewide offices to antiabortion politicians. We also lost our reproductive freedom majority in the House of Delegates which is now 52-48.

We did not let this unfortunate loss slow our momentum, though. We went into session ready to fight, protect, and win against anti-abortion legislation. And we did just that.

Anti-abortion politicians introduced **over a dozen anti-reproductive health bills** in the GA. These bills focused on everything from a complete abortion ban later in pregnancy to censoring reproductive healthcare information for minors. Fortunately, we defeated all but one, thanks to our volunteers, partners, and pro-reproductive freedom legislators.

## **Repro on the Record**

With the persistence of COVID, the General Assembly has moved to a hybrid model for receiving testimony, accepting both in-person and virtual testimony on bills.

Our approach to storytelling in this context is to create a supportive network and a safe space for folks to be able to share their stories with each other and potentially with legislators or publish in media pieces.

Become a storyteller: bit.ly/ProChoiceStorytelling

## **Legislative Rapid Response Team**

We have grown our Legislative Rapid Response Team (LRRT) to 205 participants this year, our largest team ever. LRRT is tasked with contacting members of committees and subcommittees where our priority pieces of legislation are heard.

#### 2022 LRRT successes:

- 840 emails sent to legislators
- 123 tweets at legislators
- 2 people testified in committee hearings (both virtual and inperson)
- 32 pieces of written testimony submitted
- 3 Tweet & Teas held
- 1 Testimony Writing Party held

Sign up for LRRT alerts: bit.ly/PCVA\_LRRT2022

Overall, we faced the challenges of the 2022 Legislative Session head-on. Through collaboration, innovation, and tenacity, we kept the pressure on legislators and defeated some terrible pieces of anti-abortion legislation.

# WHAT'S NEXT?

As always, Pro-Choice Virginia is committed to protecting and expanding access to abortion for all Virginians. But we are in for the fight of our lives.

In May of 2022, the Supreme Court leaked its opinion on Roe v. Wade and solidified its intention to overturn 50 years of precedent. We have been preparing for this day and knew it would come, but it does not make this injustice any less devastating or terrifying.

# So, we are gearing up for a battle.

The future of abortion access is uncertain, but there's still hope. Together, with you, our supporters, advocates, and legislative champions and allies, we can come together and protect and expand access to abortion in the Commonwealth and be a safe haven for those who seek care from around the country until our rights are secured permanently.

