



NARAL
PRO-CHOICE AMERICA

Pro-Choice Postcard

Party Toolkit

Tell your state lawmakers to make pro-choice policies a priority in 2019!

Before state legislators arrive in statehouses in 2019, we have to send the message that their constituents are pro-choice and we'll be expecting them to fight for our reproductive freedom.

WHAT'S AT STAKE

In 1973, the landmark ruling *Roe v. Wade* affirmed what we all know to be true: every American deserves to make decisions about her own life, body, and future. But since then, anti-choice organizations and politicians have continuously ramped up their agenda, stacking the lower courts with anti-choice judges and attacking a woman's right to privacy by advancing legislation to chip away at these rights.

As a result, there are at least 20 cases in the pipeline that could significantly gut or overturn the protections of *Roe* as soon as the Supreme Court takes them up. With two of Trump's anti-choice appointees now on the Supreme Court, **the threat of overturning *Roe v. Wade*, criminalizing abortion and punishing women, is real and immediate.**

But we're not powerless. It's more important than ever that we look to our state lawmakers and act on what we can do in our own backyard to fight for the ability to access safe and legal abortion. We have to put new protections in place, repeal dangerous restrictions, hold the line against further attacks, and show the country that every woman deserves access to safe and legal abortion. The only way we will do this is if we organize to show up, send letters, and speak up in statehouses around the country in 2019.

Contents

- Why host a party
- How to host a party
- Writing postcards
- Sending postcards
- Social media

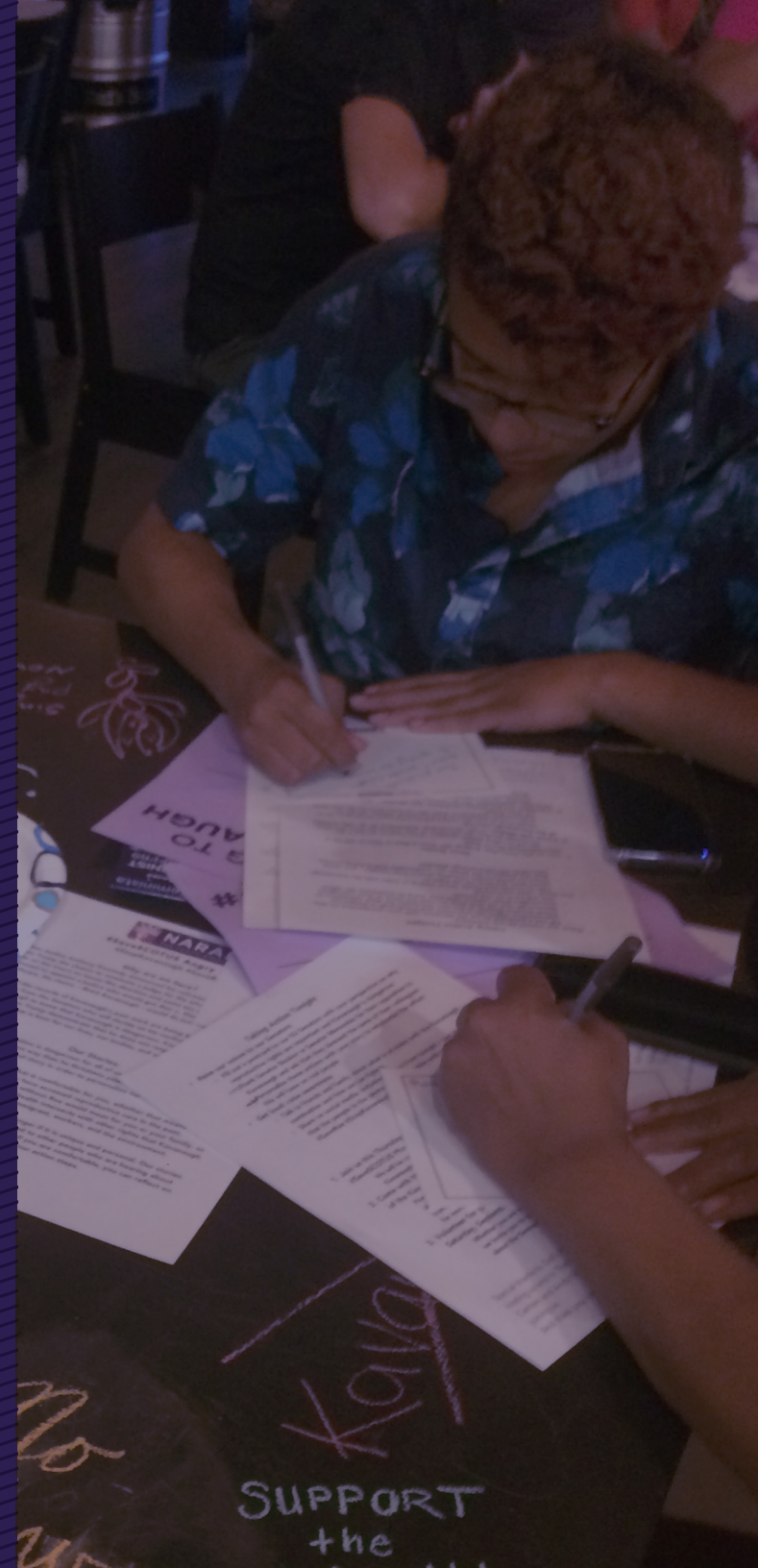
APPENDIX:

- Sample Invite
- Sign In Sheet
- Factsheet for Party
- Report Back Form

Why should I host an action party to collect these postcards?

Getting out to vote for pro-choice candidates was step one. Now we have got to make sure they know we aren't going away.

That's why before lawmakers even get to the statehouse for 2019 legislative session, we are going to make sure they know that the right to safe and legal abortion is a priority for their constituents. These messages will bolster our pro-choice champions by letting them know we have their backs, embolden lawmakers who may be nervous to speak up, and put anti-choice lawmakers on notice so they think twice before spearheading or supporting attacks on repro rights.



I'm ready to host a party! How do I do it?

LET US KNOW.

When you do, we can send you signs and materials to make the party fun and easy. Fill out this form <http://bit.ly/postcard-party-signup>

PICK A DATE

Try to host your party in December, so legislators receive postcards before or at the start of legislative session. That said, January will also work!

CREATE A GUEST LIST.

Make a list of friends, family, and neighbors. Consider acquaintances from work, gym, and school.

If you want to invite other NARAL members that live in your area, fill out this form <http://bit.ly/postcard-party-signup>

DECIDE ON A LOCATION.

A few ideas: you can host a party at your home, a friend's home, a local library, or coffee shop.

Tip! Once you have an idea of how many people you're inviting, you'll have a better idea of where to host your party!

INVITE PEOPLE.

Here are a few ways you can reach out to your guest list:

- Create a Facebook event and/or email an invitation out.
- Call, text, or email your friends to follow up on your Facebook invitation or email.
- Ask your friends to invite their personal network.
- Invite those in your community by posting a flyer or dropping off an invite at local shops.

Check out the sample invitation in the appendix.

Prepare for your party

MAKE AN AGENDA AHEAD OF TIME

TIMING Plan things like when people will arrive; when people will fill out postcards; when people will share their stories; and when you will take pictures of your event.

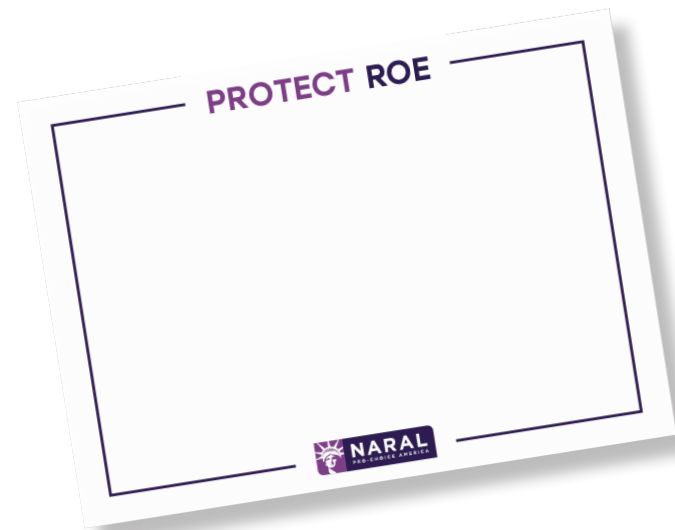
SOCIAL MEDIA If you are going to post on social media (and we hope you do!), ask attendees ahead of time if they are okay with you posting photos of them.

SHARING STORIES Ask a guest to share a story about what access to abortion means to them, and/or plan to share one yourself.

GET MATERIALS READY

Here are some things you may need:

- Set up a sign-in sheet
- Put postcards out
- Hang up signage or other decorations
- Provide light snacks (if you want!)
- Consider printing the factsheet in the appendix



What to do with your postcards



WRITE

Write and address postcards to your elected officials with a clear message and ask for them. It's easy and there are just two parts:

1. Tell them you're pro-choice and that protecting access to safe and legal abortion is a priority for you.
2. Ask them to make this their priority in 2019.

SAMPLE MESSAGE:

I am your constituent, I am pro-choice, and I am urging you to make access to safe and legal abortion in [STATE] a priority in 2019.

Please oppose dangerous attacks on reproductive freedom and support pro-choice policies. I care because [INSERT YOUR REASON].

Thank you,
[NAME]



LOOK UP YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS

You should send postcards to your two state legislators:

- Your state representative
- Your state senator (all states except Nebraska)

REMINDER! Your representatives depend on where you live, so you will need to look them up to confirm who you are sending your postcards to and where to mail them.

Tip! Visit commoncause.org/find-your-representative to find their address.

Sending your postcards



MAIL

If your legislators are newly elected, they may not have an official mailing address yet. Send their cards to the state capitol address with their name and title: "Rep." for representative or "Sen." for senator. Look up the state capitol address by Googling: "[STATE] capitol building address"

BONUS! If you have time, send two additional postcards, one to each of the following:

- The governor
- The state attorney general

You can use the same link to find their names and addresses.

DON'T FORGET! Make sure you have stamps in order to mail the postcards for people at your party. You can buy stamps at places such as your post office, some drug stores and local businesses or even order them online.



A NOTE ABOUT TIMING




Send to state-elected officials from November through early January, so they receive them as the 2019 state legislative session is about to begin.

Highlighting your postcard party!

Social Media or it didn't happen! Just kidding.
It definitely still happened and will make a BIG impact.

We know not everyone is a social media user, so if you're not, think about asking a friend who is to help spread the word about your action online! If you are on social media, great! Here's how to inspire folks around the country with your action:

- **TAKE PHOTOS** and share on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
- Include the **HASHTAG** #prochoiceparty.
- **TAG** us by using these handles:

 /NARALProChoiceAmerica
 @prochoiceamerica
 @NARAL

Tip! Tag your legislators by looking up their handles and including them in your post.



We are tracking how many postcard parties happen across the country and want to make sure we include yours. We're asking you to do a quick and easy report back answering the questions listed the appendix.

Appendix: Tools for your party

Sample Invitation

Dear friends,

I am hosting a cool event on [DATE, TIME], and I'm hoping you can come!

As you might, or might not know, reproductive freedom is something I care deeply about. Getting out to vote for pro-choice candidates this past November was step one in fighting for our fundamental freedoms, and now we have got to make sure our new legislators know we aren't going away.

With another anti-choice judge on the Supreme Court and cases teed up to be heard soon, the threat of *Roe v. Wade* being overturned is real and immediate. But we're not powerless. It's more important than ever that we look to our state lawmakers and what we can do right here in [STATE] to fight for the legal right to access safe and legal abortion. Before they return to the statehouse, we have to tell them that their constituents are pro-choice and that we'll be expecting them to fight for our reproductive freedom in 2019.

That's why I'm joining other NARAL Pro-Choice America members around the country and hosting a Pro-Choice Postcard Party where we will take action and get handwritten postcards into our state lawmakers before they head to the capitol for their 2019 legislative session—and I hope you'll come!

There will be good conversation, feminist friends, snacks, and a chance to make sure reproductive freedom is a priority for [STATE] lawmakers in 2019.

Are you in? RSVP to let me know if you can make it by sending me a text, email or giving me a call!

There's a Facebook event set up as well with all the details as well, so you can invite others if you like: [FACEBOOK EVENT LINK].

I hope you can come, and looking forward to hearing from you soon!

[YOUR NAME]

Join NARAL to fight for WOMEN'S RIGHTS



NARAL Pro-Choice America is fighting to expand access to abortion and affordable birth control.
Sign up to become a member and fight with us.

| NAME | E-MAIL | CELL PHONE | ZIP CODE | CHECK HERE TO RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGES* | CHECK HERE TO SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER |
|-------|--------|------------|----------|--|--|
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By taking this action, you are affirming your membership in NARAL Pro-Choice America. For more information, go to <https://www.prochoiceamerica.org/membership>

*Standard data and messaging rates apply.

THE REALITY OF ROE ACROSS THE COUNTRY

State Laws Will Make the Difference

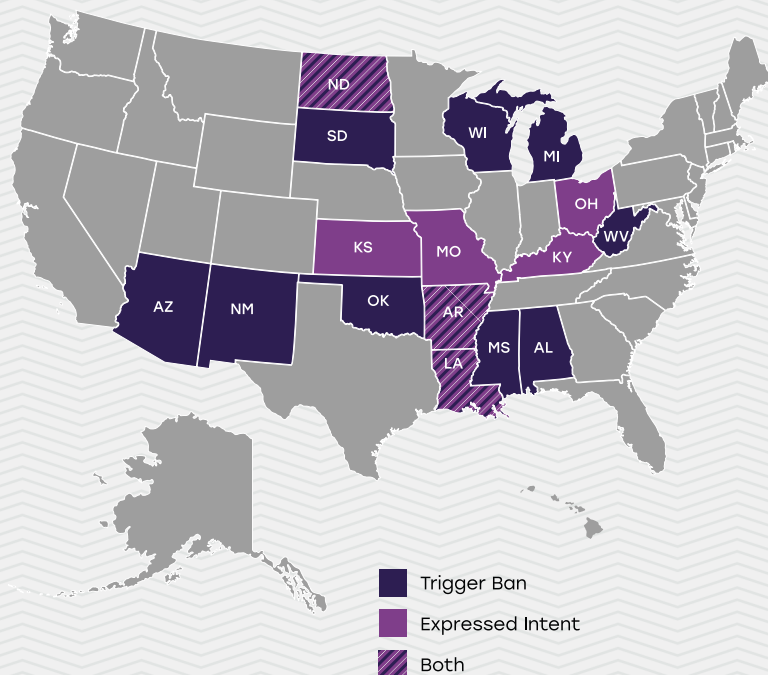
With two of Trump’s anti-choice nominees now on the Supreme Court, the threat of overturning *Roe v. Wade*, criminalizing abortion and punishing women, is real and immediate. Access, already severely limited for many in the country, will never improve if the legal foundation that *Roe* provides is ripped out from under us.

But we’re not powerless. It’s more important than ever that we look to our state lawmakers and act on what we can do in our own backyard to fight for the ability to access safe and legal abortion.

NATIONAL SNAPSHOT

We have work to do—nationally, there are significantly more states that could quickly or immediately ban abortion should *Roe* be overturned than there are states that have taken steps to enshrine those rights.

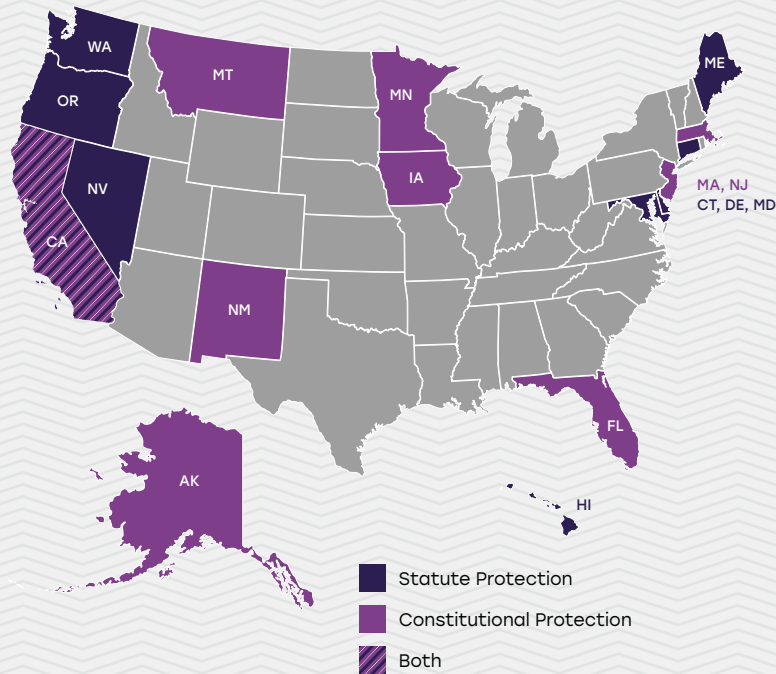
States at Greatest Risk



12 Twelve states either have a ban on abortion from the *pre-Roe* era, a "trigger ban" that would criminalize abortion immediately in the state should *Roe* be overturned, or both: AL, AZ, AR, LA, MI, MS, NM, ND, OK, SD, WV, and WI.

7 Seven states have "Expressed Intent" articulated in law their interest in restricting abortion to the maximum extent allowed by the Supreme Court: AR, KS, KY, LA, MO, ND, and OH.

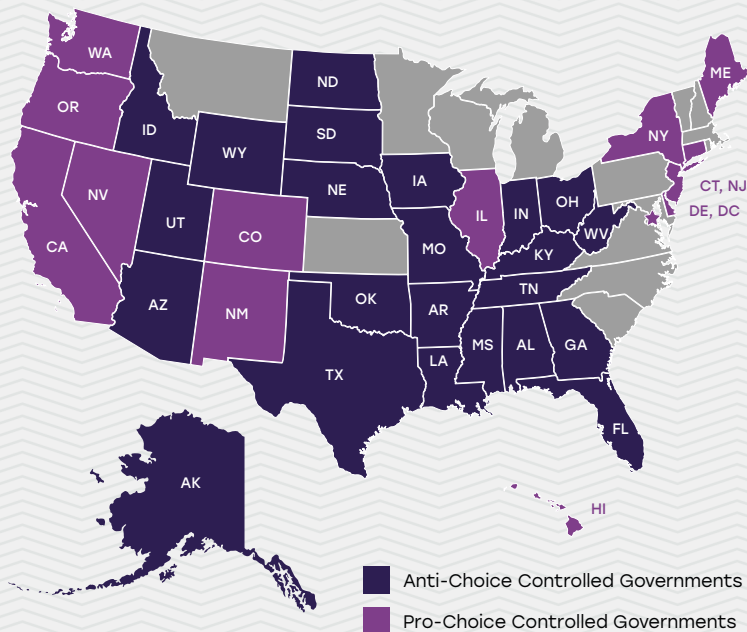
States with Greatest Protections



9 Nine states have a protection for abortion written into law, enshrining Roe's protections in state law should Roe be overturned by the Supreme Court. Should Congress ever pass a federal ban, it could override these state laws, but there's no doubt that they are lifesaving stopgaps: CA, CT, DE, HI, ME, MD, NV, OR, and WA.

9 Nine states have a measure on the books called a "State Constitutional Protection." This less secure type of protection exists when the state's highest court rules that the state constitution recognizes the right to abortion: AK, CA, FL, IA, MA, MN, MT, NJ, and NM.

Pro-Choice and Anti-Choice Majorities



23 Twenty-three states have completely anti-choice controlled state governments, including the governor and both chambers of the legislature. This means the legislature could immediately enact a ban on abortion with little to no opposition: AL, AK, AZ, AR, FL, GA, ID, IN, IA, KY, LA, MS, MO, NE, ND, OH, OK, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV, and WY.

14 Thirteen states and the District of Columbia have pro-choice controlled governments, including the governor and both chambers of the state legislature. CA, DC, DE, HI, NJ, OR and WA were joined by CO, CT, IL, ME, NV, NM, and NY after the 2018 election.

State protections are critical for any state that wants to preserve the rights of its residents and make known that women are not criminals simply for accessing healthcare.

Now, more than ever, lawmakers should work to enshrine and expand protections where they can, and fight to hold the line against further attacks where anti-choice electeds continue to ignore the pro-choice majority.

Report Back Form

How did it go? Here are a few ways you can let us know about your party:

- For easy submission you can fill out this report back form here: <http://bit.ly/report-back-form>
- Take a photo of it filled out or type up your answers and email us at organize@prochoiceamerica.org.
- Drop it in the mail to 1725 Eye St. NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20006

What day and time was your party?

How difficult was this party to organize for you?

Where was your party? (Your home, a friend's home, a library, coffee shop, etc.)

What worked well?

How many people did you invite?

What was challenging?

How many people showed up?

Would you do this again?

How many postcards in total were written and sent?

What advice do you have for us for future events like this?

Did people have fun?

What other types of actions are you and/or your friends interested in?



NARAL Pro-Choice America and its network of state affiliates are dedicated to protecting and expanding reproductive freedom for all Americans. NARAL works to guarantee that every woman has the right to make personal decisions regarding the full range of reproductive choices, including preventing unintended pregnancy, bearing healthy children, and choosing legal abortion. In recognition of its work defending our constitutional right to choose, Fortune Magazine described NARAL as “one of the top 10 advocacy groups in America.”

To learn more about NARAL Pro-Choice America visit prochoiceamerica.org

Text NARAL to 21333 to receive our mobile action alerts.