

Colorado 2022 Reproductive Rights Scorecard



# Colorado 2022 Reproductive Rights Scorecard

Cobalt, founded in 1967, is a Colorado-based abortion rights organization. We believe that nothing should stand between you and your health decisions, which is why we are dedicated to fighting for systems, structures and policies that protect reproductive rights and guarantee comprehensive, universal access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion.

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## 2022 Legislative Scorecard Overview

Colorado has always been a leader in reproductive rights, from being the first state to decriminalize abortion in 1967, to our nationally-recognized program that provided free, long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) to patients who wanted it, and Cobalt has been at the helm of this work since the beginning.

The right to self determination and bodily autonomy are deeply held Colorado values. Cobalt's annual scorecard allows us to report on who is, or is not, living up to those shared values based on whether or not members of the General Assembly vote to support or oppose abortion access and reproductive rights.

This is report is a tool used by Cobalt's more than 170,000 members across Colorado to see whether or not their legislators are committed to protecting and expanding abortion rights and reproductive health care access, and - when the time comes - to hold them accountable at the ballot box.





# **2022 Early Endorsements**



U.S. Senator Michael Bennet



Governor Jared Polis



Attorney General Phil Weiser



Secretary of State Jena Griswold



Treasurer Dave Young



April 4, 2022 - Gov. Polis signed HB22-1279 into Law



Treasurer Dave Young, Rep. Susan Lontine, Cobalt President Hon. Karen Middleton



AG Phil Weiser & Cobalt Political Director, Selina Najar



Sec. of State Jena Griswold & a constituent of Sen. Julie Gonzales' testifying in support of HB22-1279

# Cobalt's 2022 Legislative Highlight HB22-1279 Reproductive Health Equity Act



RHEA Signing Day: Sponsors, Advocates & Lobbyists Outside of the Governor's Residence

The U.S. Supreme Court has all but guaranteed they are going to eliminate federal protections for abortion with their upcoming ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* but we've seen the writing on the wall for decades and have been preparing for this moment. The loss of rights and bodily autonomy afforded to us by *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* means the responsibility to maintain legal abortion will fall on individual states and their respective legislative leadership.

In the face of this Constitutional crisis, Colorado leaders met the moment with action, not just words. On April 4, 2022, Colorado Governor Jared Polis signed into law HB22-1279, the Reproductive Health Equity Act (RHEA). This historic legislation would not have been possible without our Sponsors: House Majority Leader Daneya Esgar (D-Pueblo), Rep. Meg Froelich (D-Littleton), and Sen. Julie Gonzales (D-Denver) in addition to our co-lead organization: the Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR).

RHEA modernized Colorado statute to reflect what the Centennial State's electorate has voiced many times over: when it comes to ending a pregnancy, a woman should have the power to make decisions about her own body.

#### Summary of HB22-1279:

The Reproductive Health Equity Act ensures every individual has the fundamental right to choose or refuse contraception; every individual who becomes pregnant has a fundamental right to choose to continue a pregnancy and give birth or to have an abortion; and a fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus does not have independent rights under the laws of Colorado.

#### **Moving Beyond Roe:**

It's been nearly 50 years since the Supreme Court guaranteed a legal right to abortion through *Roe v. Wade*, but the case law failed to ensure that everyone can access abortion care – especially people of color and those who are working hard to make ends meet. Decades of abortion restrictions have denied marginalized communities

RIGHT: Kristen Seidel, Summer Nettles & Rep. Leslie Herod at the 4/4 RHEA Reception

BELOW: Cobalt Abortion Fund Director Amanda Carlson Opened the 5/14 Denver Rally





# Cobalt's 2022 Legislative Highlight HB22-1279 Reproductive Health Equity Act

the ability to get the health care they need, when they need it.

RHEA is more robust than the protections afforded by *Roe:* HB22-1279 explicitly affirms and protects the <u>fundamental right</u> to to choose or refuse all reproductive health services, including abortion without an arbitrary gestational limit. Because Coloradans know that every pregnancy, is unique, and when something goes wrong during a pregnancy—health care decisions must be left to the pregnant person in consultation with their doctor, family, and in accordance with their faith. But the work doesn't end once legality is established.

#### What's next?

*Roe v. Wade* has always been a floor, not a ceiling. We must ensure that abortion is not only *legal* but also *accessible* for anyone who wants it, without stigma, cost barriers, political interference, or fear of prosecution. The Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice Coalition is preparing for a 2024 ballot measure to both enshrine protections for abortion access in the state Constitution as well as repeal the State Funding Ban through intentional education, organizing, and communication. This isn't "just" a women's issue; this is a civil rights and a human rights issue. This is about health and dignity, racial justice, and economic justice.

COLOR Policy Director Katherine Riley & Strategic Communications Director Aurea Bolaños Perea at the RHEA Reception

Cobalt & COLOR staff at the CO Capitol for HB22-1279's House Health & Insurance Committee Hearing











### **RHEA by the Numbers**

Legislative Co-Sponsors Upon Final Passage: Every Democratic General Assembly Member Co-Sponsored HB22-1279

Organizational Endorsements Across a Broad Range of Advocacy Issues

96

Individuals Testified in Support of RHEA

Hours of House / Senate Floor Debate (House: 24 / Senate: 12)

27

Hours of Committee Hearings (House: 14 / Senate: 13)

20

Days Between HB22-1279's Introduction and Final Passage



Days Between HB22-1279's Introduction Until it was Signed into Law

# HOUSE VOTES 2022

#### **KEY**

- ✓ Pro-Repro Rights Vote
- Anti-Repro Rights Vote 0
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Legislator	2022 Score	HB 22. M.	HB 22-1000	40 161 161	HB 22.	HB 22-12	HB 22-12	Cop on Cop	-
Susan Lontine, HD1	100%	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		Cok
Alec Garnett, HD2	100%	_	_	-	_	✓	✓		cele
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Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez,	_	v	v	v	¥				cas
HD4	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		who bey
Alex Valdez., HD5	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		anc
Steven Woodrow, HD6	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		righ
Jennifer Bacon, HD7	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		reco dist
Leslie Herod, HD8	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		ont
Emily Sirota, HD9	100%	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		- Dri
Edie Hooton, HD10	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		• Pri HB2
Karen McCormick, HD11	100%	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		Rep
Tracey Bernett, HD12	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	✓		Equ
Judy Amabile, HD13	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		• Th
Shane Sandridge, HD14	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		eith
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Andres Pico, HD16	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		adc
Tony Exum, HD17	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		long
Marc Snyder, HD18	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		cha
Tim Geitner, HD19	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Terri Carver, HD20	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Mary Bradfield, HD21	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Colin Larson, HD22	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Chris Kennedy, HD23	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Monica Duran, HD24	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Lisa Cutter, HD25	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Dylan Roberts, HD26	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Brianna Titone, HD27	100%	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Kerry Tipper, HD28	100%	-	-	-	-	✓	$\checkmark$		
Lindsey Daugherty, HD29	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Dafna Michaelson Jenet, HD30	100%	-	-	-	-	✓	$\checkmark$		
Yadira Caraveo, HD31	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Adrienne Benavidez, HD32	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Matt Gray, HD33	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	E		

Cobalt Gems: We want to celebrate our legislators who do more than just cast a good vote-those who go above and beyond to invest their time and energy in abortion rights advocacy deserve recognition. This year, the distinction "Cobalt Gem" on the scorecard denotes:

• Prime Sponsorship of HB22-1279, the **Reproductive Health** Equity Act; and/or

• The member served on either the House/Senate's 13+ hour committee hearings on RHEA - in addition to the historically long floor debates in both chambers.

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Shannon Bird, HD35	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		C
Mike Weissman, HD36	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		V
Tom Sullivan, HD37	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		v
David Ortiz, HD38	100%	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		k
Mark Baisley, HD39	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0		c r
Naquetta Ricks, HD40	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		r
lman Jodeh, HD41	100%	-	-	-	-	E	$\checkmark$		c
Mandy Lindsay, HD42	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		C
Kevin Van Winkle, HD43	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		•
Kim Ransom, HD44	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		H
Patrick Neville, HD45	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0		R E
Daneya Esgar, HD46	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		•
Stephanie Luck, HD47	0%	-	0	0	0	0	0		e
Tonya Van Beber, HD48	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		1
Mike Lynch, HD49	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		ł
Mary Young, HD50	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		c Io
Hugh McKean, HD51	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		Ċ
Cathy Kipp, HD52	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Andrew Boesenecker, HD53	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Matt Soper, HD54	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Janice Rich, HD55	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Rod Bockenfeld, HD56	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Perry Will, HD57	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Marc Catlin, HD58	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Barbara McLachlan, HD59	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	~		
Ron Hanks, HD60	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Julie McCluskie, HD61	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Donald Valdez, HD62	100%	-	-	-	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Dan Woog, HD63	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Richard Holtorf, HD64	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		
Rod Pelton, HD65	0%	-	-	-	-	0	0		

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Stephen Fenberg, SD18	100%	_	_	_	_	$\checkmark$	✓ ✓		long
Rachel Zenzinger, SD19	100%		_	_	_				cha
Jessie Danielson, SD20	100%	_	_	_	_	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
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Jeff Bridges, SD26	100%	_	_	_	_	<b>√</b>	v √		
Chris Kolker, SD27	100%	_	_	-	_	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Janet Buckner, SD28	100%		_	_	_	$\checkmark$	✓ ✓		
Rhonda Fields, SD29	100%	_	_	_	_	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Chris Holbert, SD30	0%	_	_	_	_	•	0		
Chris Hansen, SD31	100%	_	_	_	_	√	<b>v</b>		
Robert Rodriguez, SD32	100%	_	_	_	_		$\checkmark$		
James Coleman, SD33	100%	-	_	_	_	$\checkmark$			
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# **RHEA Friends, Partners, and Champions: A Special Thank You**

#### **House Co-Sponsors**

Susan Lontine, 1 Alec Garnett, 2 Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez, 4 Alex Valdez, 5 Steven Woodrow, 6 Jennifer Bacon, 7 Leslie Herod, 8 Emily Sirota, 9 Edie Hooton, 10 Tracey Bernett, 12 Tony Exum, 17 Marc Snyder, 18 Chris Kennedy, 23 Monica Duran, 24 Lisa A. Cutter, 25 Brianna Titone, 27 Kerry Tipper, 28 Lindsey Daugherty, 29

Dafna Michaelson Jenet, 30 Yadira Caraveo, 31 Adrienne Benavidez, 32 Matt Gray, 33 Kyle Mullica, 34 Shannon Bird, 35 Mike Weissman, 36 Tom Sullivan, 37 David Ortiz, 38 Naquetta Ricks, 40 Iman Jodeh, 41 Mandy Lindsay, 42 Mary Young, 50 Cathy Kipp, 52 Andrew Boesenecker, 53 Barbara McLachlan, 59 Julie McCluskie, 61 Don Valdez, 62

#### Senate Co-Sponsors

Nick Hinrichsen, 3 Kerry Donovan, 5 Pete Lee, 11 Joann Ginal, 14 Tammy Story, 16 Sonya Jaquez Lewis, 17 Stephen Fenberg, 18 Rachel Zenzinger, 19 Jessie Danielson, 20 Dominick Moreno, 21 Brittany Pettersen, 22 Faith Winter, 24 Jeff Bridges, 26 Chris Kolker, 27 Janet Buckner, 28 Rhonda Fields, 29 Chris Hansen, 31 Robert Rodriquez, 32 James Coleman, 33

#### THANK YOU TO OUR FEARLESS SPONSORS

Rep. Meg Froelich, Majority Leader Rep. Daneya Esgar, and Sen. Julie Gonzales!





Colorado secured a **significant** win for abortion rights with the passage of the Reproductive Health Equity Act this year. But that wouldn't have been possible without electing pro-abortion rights candidates up and down the ballot. We **must** elect leaders at every level of government who will protect the right to abortion, and who will **act** to move Colorado beyond legality by fighting to eliminate the structural, financial, and systemic barriers that restrict abortion access.

While the predictions about the U.S. Supreme Court's upcoming ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization are distressing, Cobalt remains steadfast in our dedication to protect and advance abortion access for Coloradans and beyond.

To Colorado's legislative leaders, patient & provider advocates, partner organizations, and Cobalt supporters: *thank you for your bold, fierce advocacy.* 

Storytelling is at the heart of what we do.

Here, told via Tweets, is the story of Community carrying RHEA across the finish line.

## RHEA by the Tweets: A Chronology У



Colorado Women's Bar Association @ColoWomensBar - Jan 12 \*\*\* Colorado has always been a leader on abortion and the Reproductive Health Equity Act continues that legacy. We have 55 #COLeg members signed on and ready to get this passed so they can focus on other priorities important to CO. #RHEA4CO



New Era Colorado @NewEraColorado · Feb 8 ···· 3 anti-abortion bills have been introduced in CO this year, bringing the total to 45 over the last decade. With our rights constantly under attack, we need to establish proactive protections. Step 1: **#PassRHEANow.** Step 2: Pass a constitutional amendment to protect abortion in CO

One Colorado @One\_Colorado · Feb 16 ···· The decision about whether and when to become a parent is one of the most important life decisions we can make. We should be able to do so without barriers and political interference. @cobaltadvocates @colorlatina #PassRHEANow #ProReproCO #COLeg bit.ly/RHEA22petition

ROSE

Rose Community Foundation @rcfdenver · Mar 3 ···· Individuals' access to the full range of reproductive health care services and options – including whether to get an abortion – is essential to ensuring equitable health outcomes.

Rose Community Foundation supports the Reproductive Health Equity Act.

#### #PassRHEANow



#### Daneya Esgar 🤣 @Dlesgar · Mar 9

Politicians have no place in deciding whether or not someone is ready to be a parent. @RepMegFroe and I trust folks to make their own healthcare decisions -- which is why we'll be in committee fighting for the Reproductive Health Equity Act well into the night. #coleg #copolitics





 Rep. Kyle Mullica @Kyle\_Mullica · Mar 10
 ....

 3:51 in the morning- Beyond tired, but I would have stayed until the 
 ....

 came up to make sure we protect access to reproductive healthcare. Proud of the work we got done tonight! #copolitics #coleg
 ....





Representative Lindsey Daugherty ⊘ @LindseyForCO · Mar 11 ···· Today I will have the honor to serve as House Chair for the 2nd reading of the ☆ Reproductive Health Equity Act (RHEA) ☆.

I am proud to be a part of this historic effort to protect a woman's right to choose in Colorado. This is why I do the work.

#### #PassRHEAnow #RHEA4CO #COleg



David Ortiz 🤄 @DavidDOrtizCO · Mar 12 \*\* It's the next day as we continue the non stop marathon of debate to make

It's the next day as we continue the non stop marathon of debate to make sure we're protecting a person's constitutional right to have reproductive choice. **#PassRHEANow #**coleg



# RHEA by the Tweets: A Chronology 🔰



Representative Lisa Cutter @ @Cutter4Colorado · Mar 12 ···· Making history. Still here at 5AM "debating" the right for women to have bodily autonomy. Worth it. #PassRHEANow #coLeg



PNC

ProgressNow Colorado @ProgressNowCO · Mar 23 \*\*\* "A woman will risk her life to not have a child. That same woman, at another point in her life, will absolutely risk her life again to become a mother."

Sen. @JessieDanielson, next to her sleeping baby, makes the case why #RHEA4CO helps folks in both circumstances.

#COPolitics



....

#### The Brazen Project @\_BrazenProject · Mar 17

We're back at it, this time in Senate Judiciary today! Follow these amazing organizations sponsoring **#RHEA4CO** and us for live updates. Also catch Brazen alumni and other young activists testifying in support of bodily autonomy! **#PassRHEANow** 



Catholics for Choice ② @Catholic4Choice · Mar 17 ···· "We believe in a future where #abortion is available in our communities, & people can create the families they want without barriers, stigma or shame. The Reproductive Health Equity Act helps build that future."

# Thank you @breakstonem!! W Description Thank you @breakstonem # Description Thank you @breakstonem!! W Description Thank you @breakstonem!! W Description Thank you @breakstonem # Description Thank you @



Rhonda Fields 🤣 @SenRhondaFields · Mar 22

HB22-1279 Reproductive Health Equity Act is up for full debate today on the Senate floor. Here we go again ...defending and fighting for the reproductive destinies of our body. The movement continues: My body, my birth canal, my decision. coloradochannel.net/sessions/?id=2... --

...



# RHEA by the Tweets: A Chronology 🔰



KaylaQ @KaylaQFrawley

I am so impressed by this team. But a special shout out to @KatJRiley who was at the Capitol for multiples hearings, 8 months pregnant fighting for choice. You're incredible friend, so proud of your work. #copolitics #cobaltgala2022 @colorlatina



7:43 PM · Mar 26, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone



Maggie Gómez @maggielgomez · Apr 4 In a few moments, **#RHEA** will be signed into law protecting the fundamental right to access abortion care and **#reprohealth** in Colorado. So proud of our legislators, advocates, and allies for all the hard work to **#passRHEAnow #**coleg **#cohealth #copolitics** 





Center for Reproductive Rights ② @ReproRights - Apr 4 The Colorado Reproductive Health Equity Act has been signed into law! Solution The ability to make our own decisions about our health, life and future is a fundamental right. #RHEA will ensure that right stays protected in Colorado. #AbortionIsEssential #RHEA4CO

#### Pinned Tweet



Senadora Julie Gonzales ② @SenadoraJulie · Apr 4 ···· + That feeling when you codify every Coloradan's ability to make their own reproductive healthcare decisions + #coleg #copolitics



•••

# *"Without community, there is no liberation."*

-Audre Lorde

Cobalt will be here, advocating for reproductive freedom.

As long as it takes.

# cobalt

Advancing Abortion Access and Reproductive Rights

cobaltadvocates.org info@cobaltadvocates.org



@CobaltAdvocates