

Missouri's Cross-State Abortion Ban

HB 1677 (Wright), HB 1854 (Schroer), HB 2012 (Kelly)

The amendment attached to HB 1677, HB 1854, and HB 2012 would target any person in any state who helps a Missourian access abortion — providers, abortion funds, support staff and others.

This unconstitutional amendment enables vigilante bounty hunters to surveil Missourians and sue anyone who helps them access abortion that is legal in another state.

- This amendment, which attempts to extend Missouri's restrictive abortion laws into other states, violates those states' sovereignty and is plainly unconstitutional. No state can regulate conduct that occurs wholly outside of that state.
- Fifteen states and Washington, D.C. protect the right to abortion regardless of whether the U.S. Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade*.
- Missouri is attempting to use this cross-state abortion ban to prevent its own citizens from leaving the state to get health care by punishing anyone involved in abortion care in these 15 states and Washington D.C.

This cross-state abortion ban targets the future of abortion access in a post-Roe reality.

- We already know what happens when abortion is inaccessible in a state. According to a recent study, since Texas started enforcing its abortion ban in September 2021, <u>1,400 patients</u> a month have fled the state for care. In Missouri, the majority of people who need abortions have already been seeking care outside of their home state.
- This amendment encourages anyone in the United States to surveil Missourians who seek abortion outside of Missouri, even in states with laws that protect the right to abortion.
- The amendment offers a minimum \$10,000 bounty to anyone who successfully sues an out-of-state abortion provider or anyone who aided the abortion, including support staff, abortion funds, and loved ones — all in an effort to intimidate a patient's support network and eliminate what little is left of abortion access.
- The reality is, if and when abortions are banned, people will continue accessing care in different
 ways. For historically marginalized communities people of color, women, and people with low
 incomes abortion access will continue to be a heavier burden because of existing racist and
 discriminatory systems.