



July 12, 2022

The Honorable Judy Chu
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Chu:

On behalf of the American College of Physicians (ACP), I am writing to share our support for H.R. 8296, the Women's Health Protection Act of 2022, that would protect access to abortion across the United States, despite the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe vs Wade*. ACP firmly [supports](#) patient autonomy and ensuring access for all patients to the full range of reproductive health care services, including abortion. ACP [believes](#) that such reproductive health care decisions are foundational to the patient-physician relationship. A patient's decision about whether to continue a pregnancy should be a private decision made in consultation with a physician or other health care professional, without interference from the government.

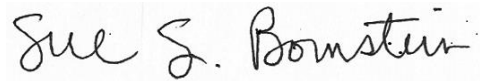
The ACP is the largest medical specialty organization and the second-largest physician membership society in the United States. The ACP's members include 161,000 internal medicine physicians (internists), related subspecialists, and medical students. Internal medicine physicians are specialists who apply scientific knowledge, clinical expertise, and compassion to the preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic care of adults across the spectrum from health to complex illness. Internal medicine specialists treat many of the patients at greatest risk from COVID-19, including the elderly and patients with pre-existing conditions like diabetes, heart disease, and asthma.

The Women's Health Protection Act would ensure equal access to abortion care in the United States which is essential for social and economic equality, reproductive autonomy, and the right of our patients to make their own decisions with dignity and self-determination. Moreover, it seeks to protect physicians' and other health care clinicians' ability to deliver abortion services free from medically unnecessary restrictions such as waiting periods, biased counselling and admitting privilege requirements for clinicians. This legislation also mandates that governments may not require patients to make medically unnecessary in-person visits before receiving abortion services or disclose their reasons for obtaining such services or prohibit abortion services before fetal viability or after fetal viability when a clinician determines the pregnancy risks the patient's life or health.

We urge the Congress to pass this legislation without delay especially now that the Supreme Court has eliminated all federal protections for abortion services in its decision to overturn *Roe*

vs Wade. In the wake of the Court's decision, many states have already banned access to abortion services or are poised to take steps to further restrict access to vital reproductive services. We look forward to working with you to restore the right to access reproductive services for all Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue S. Bornstein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot above the second 'S'.

Sue S. Bornstein, MD, FACP
Chair, ACP Board of Regents