Sample Letter Two: For states considering additional abortion restrictions

[Date]

Dear [State legislator’s name or State Governor’s name]:

As a member of the [state] chapter of the American College of Physicians (ACP), which represents [number] internal medicine physicians, subspecialists and medical students in our state, I am writing to condemn efforts to restrict abortion in [state]. I urge you to protect individual rights and the patient-physician relationship by opposing restrictions on reproductive rights in our state.

ACP believes that individuals have the right to make their own decisions, in partnership with their physician or health care professional, on matters affecting their individual reproductive health, including about types of contraceptive methods they use or whether or not to continue a pregnancy. We strongly oppose medically unnecessary government restrictions on any health care services, and ACP has joined with over 75 health care organizations to oppose such legislative interference.

With federal protections for abortion rights overturned, more than a dozen states have banned or severely restricted abortion services. These abortion bans will likely [exacerbate](https://www.nationalacademies.org/news/2022/06/decision-to-overturn-roe-v-wade-could-worsen-reproductive-health-in-u-s-exacerbate-health-inequities) health inequities, as those with the least access to health care services will bear the brunt of these restrictions. Rather than trying to ban or restrict abortion further, [state] should be working to protect reproductive rights in state law and make it easier to access these necessary health services. Seeking or providing abortion services or other evidence-based care should never be a criminal offense, nor should patients be denied access to contraception or the ability to obtain abortion services across state lines or via telehealth consultations with their physicians. We should follow the lead of states across the country that have introduced legislation or taken executive action to protect access to reproductive care, including abortion services.

[insert any specific stories or data about the reproductive health care landscape and/or impact of abortion restrictions in your state]

Patients should have access to the full array of evidence-based care, including the right to abortion, contraception and other reproductive care. I am counting on you to take the necessary action to protect access to abortion in our state.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

[Insert name]

Member

[State] Chapter of the American College of Physicians