
Get It Done: Protecting Roe v. Wade in Michigan

GRETCHEN WHITMER'S PLAN TO
PROTECT AND EXPAND WOMEN'S
REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS



Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, Judge Brett Kavanaugh, poses a direct threat to Americans' health care and women's rights. If confirmed, Kavanaugh will be an extremist on the Supreme Court bench, where he will be able to carry out a far-right agenda long after Trump leaves office.

Kavanaugh could cast the deciding vote to overturn Roe v. Wade and gut the Affordable Care Act, severely damaging the progress we have made advancing women's healthcare. If that happens, protections for women's rights will revert back to state laws that existed prior to the landmark 1973 decision. The antiquated Michigan law that would suddenly be revived criminalizes abortions and labels family planning medical professionals as felons. This statute should have been repealed a long time ago.



The stakes in this election couldn't be higher for Michigan women and families. Attorney General Bill Schuette's campaign [has said](#) that if Roe v. Wade is overturned, "he would enforce Michigan laws including the pre-Roe abortion ban."

Michigan women can't afford to let Schuette anywhere near the governor's office. That's why I am committed as governor to passing legislation that will enshrine Roe v. Wade protections in state law and expand women's access to health care by:

1) Repealing the law that criminalizes abortion:

PA 328 of 1931 criminalizes abortion and labels family planning medical professionals as felons.

2) Reinstating funding for family planning:

In 2013, over a million dollars was cut from family planning services in Michigan.¹ Services such as access to birth control, pregnancy screenings, STI testing and treatments, and preventative cancer screenings. As governor, I will introduce budgets that restore funding for family planning services,



simultaneously expanding access to quality healthcare and saving the taxpayers' money.

3) Ensuring access to abortion and contraception:

My administration would support and push for laws that ensure access to abortion and contraception, such as:

- » Repealing the abortion-insurance rider requirement, also known as “rape insurance”;²
- » Requiring insurance companies to cover 365-day supplies of covered prescription contraception;³
- » Removing the 24-hour waiting period for abortion;⁴ and
- » Ensuring health facilities cannot refuse to provide reproductive health services if withholding them would result in health risks.⁵

4) Fixing our burdensome and ineffective sexual education laws:

Michigan's sex education practices are ineffective, and reform is necessary to improve the long-term health outcomes of Michiganders and help keep our schools and college campuses safe. While continuing to ensure the curriculum is age-appropriate, medically accurate and that parental opt-outs are respected, Michigan can provide clearer direction to schools on what sex education should look like. Currently the topic isn't even required to be taught. The only requirement under our current law is that *if* the instruction is provided it must stress abstinence.⁶ Enhancing what sex ed instruction should cover and requiring 'Yes Means Yes' consent curriculum will educate safer, more responsible decisions from younger Michiganders and help prevent sexual assaults on our college campuses.



1. [https://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(ejzfcqybxjko5h0sh3w1zcq\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2013-HB-4714](https://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(ejzfcqybxjko5h0sh3w1zcq))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2013-HB-4714)
2. https://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/whitmer_blasts_rape_insurance.html
3. [https://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(lh2hnxarOvd2os4kz3rb0tyt\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2017-HB-4019](https://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(lh2hnxarOvd2os4kz3rb0tyt))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2017-HB-4019)
4. [http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(qfocm0h520ee1tsg4ab2i5tp\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-333-17014](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(qfocm0h520ee1tsg4ab2i5tp))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-333-17014)
5. [http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(qfocm0h520ee1tsg4ab2i5tp\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2017-HB-4765](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(qfocm0h520ee1tsg4ab2i5tp))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2017-HB-4765)
6. [http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(sh2ho4bdplrbe03co35xemzh\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-380-1507](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(sh2ho4bdplrbe03co35xemzh))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-380-1507)