

Abortion Rights

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Making Waves for Democracy: May 19, 2024 meeting

Theme 1: Current landscape = polarized abortion experience

- Some states expanded access, passed new legal protections, and established new programs to ensure we can take care of everyone who needs abortion care.
 - CA was one of many states to pass pro-abortion rights ballot measures. [Prop 1](#) enshrined abortion rights in our state constitution.
 - PPLA has worked to expand abortion access – our goal is to have an appointment available within 48 hours of a patient’s initial outreach.
- Other states – including the [21 states that have banned abortion](#) at some point in pregnancy since Dobbs – are doing the opposite. Passing countless restrictions, criminalizing providers, and trying to criminalize travel.
 - Disproportionately impact people of color, young, immigrants, LGBTQ or living with disabilities.
 - Florida’s 6-week ban went into effect on May 1st, eliminating meaningful access to abortion across the southeast.

Theme 2: What’s at stake in this election?

- Abortion opponents were never going to stop at *Roe*. If they have the opportunity, they will pass a national abortion ban.
- California is not immune. We cannot be complacent.
 - The [mifepristone case](#) currently before the Supreme Court threatens to restrict access to medication abortion nationwide—even here in California.
 - If an anti-abortion administration revives the [Comstock Act](#) to serve as a backdoor abortion ban our state laws will not be enough to protect us.
- Mary Ziegler (law professor/expert on abortion policy) recently wrote that “[Abortion is on the ballot everywhere.](#)” The future of abortion access will be determined by the outcome of elections in every state.

Theme 3: Call to Action – Talk about Abortion

- The latest [Pew Research](#) poll shows that nearly 2/3 of all adults believe that abortion should be legal in all or most circumstances.

Majorities of people from every racial and ethnic background, in every age range, and at every level of educational attainment are supportive of abor