

American Bridge 21st Century: U.S. Senate Republicans again block abortion rights bill

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In U.S. Senate races across the country, Republicans are far-out-of-step with voters on abortion and reproductive health care, pushing for hardline abortion bans, including at the federal level

With the Supreme Court's Republican appointees poised to strike down *Roe v. Wade* and eliminate abortion rights, **U.S. Senate Republicans today once again voted to block consideration of [the Women's Health Protection Act](#) — a bill to codify abortion rights as constitutionally guaranteed under *Roe's* near-50-year precedent.**

Every Senate Republican voted to prevent debate on the bill, including Republicans whose seats are up in 2022: **Ron Johnson, Marco Rubio, Chuck Grassley, Rob Portman, Richard Burr, Roy Blunt, Rand Paul, Lisa Murkowski, and Pat Toomey.**

And 2024 Republican candidates, including Rick Scott, Ted Cruz, Tim Scott, Tom Cotton, Ben Sasse, and Josh Hawley, also voted to block the bill.

Last July, each of those GOP Senators [urged the Supreme Court](#) uphold Mississippi's abortion ban and [overturn *Roe v. Wade*](#) — an outcome that is [opposed by 69%](#) of Americans.

While Portman, Burr, Blunt, and Toomey are retiring and not standing for reelection in 2022, **the GOP candidates running to replace them likewise share their anti-abortion views. And, in many cases, have adopted even more hardline**

positions on abortion — with multiple 2022 U.S. Senate candidates calling for a “personhood” law or federal ban on abortion.

Here’s where 2022 Republican Senate candidates stand on overturning Roe v. Wade and backing hardline bans to outlaw abortion:

Arizona

- **Mark Brnovich** has [used his role as AG](#) to promote his anti-abortion agenda and urge the Supreme Court to overturn Roe.
- **Jim Lamon** says he opposes the Women’s Health Protection Act and [praised](#) the Republican SCOTUS appointees’ draft decision to overturn Roe as “a victory for human life.”
- **Blake Masters** [supports](#) a federal abortion ban and [says that Griswold v. Connecticut](#) should be overturned, which would allow states to ban contraceptives.
- **Justin Olson** [supports](#) a federal ban on abortions after six weeks, “before most women know they are pregnant.”

Colorado

- **Ron Hanks** is [currently pushing a bill](#) to criminalize abortion in Colorado and “enforce homicide and assault provisions without regard to the opinion of the United States [S]upreme [C]ourt in Roe v. Wade and other supreme court decisions, past and future.”
- **Joe O’Dea** has slammed Colorado’s [legislative effort to codify abortion rights](#) in a way that’s aligned with Roe v. Wade. On May 7, 2022, O’Dea [argued](#) that more abortion restriction are needed in Colorado.

Florida

- **Marco Rubio** in July 2021 [asked](#) the Supreme Court to [overturn](#) Roe v. Wade. Rubio supports outlawing abortion, and has [said](#) he “never” supported exceptions for victims of rape and incest exceptions.

Georgia

- **Herschel Walker** [supports fully outlawing abortion](#), including in cases of rape and incest.

Missouri

- **Eric Schmitt** [signed Missouri onto a brief](#) supporting Mississippi’s highly-restrictive abortion ban that has no exceptions for rape or incest. And [he’s asked the Supreme Court](#) to use Missouri’s abortion restriction as a test case to overturn Roe v. Wade.
- **Eric Greitens** [pushed abortion restrictions](#) as governor and he has [said](#) Roe v. Wade should be “sent to the ash heap of history.”
- **Vicky Hartzler** has [said](#) the Supreme Court should overturn Roe v. Wade.
- **Billy Long** has [said](#) it’s time to “abort Roe v. Wade.”
- **Mark McCloskey** [endorsed](#) a total ban outlawing all abortions, including for teen rape and incest victims.

North Carolina

- **Ted Budd** in April 2022 confirmed he [supports outlawing abortion](#) without any

exceptions — not even for rape or incest, or “[in cases where a mother’s life could be at risk](#).” Previously, Budd has [praised](#) the “creativity” of Alabama and Texas’ hardline abortion bans, and pledged to outlaw abortion “all the way back.” Budd in July 2021 [asked](#) the Supreme Court to [overturn](#) Roe v. Wade, and he’s voted against codifying Roe’s protections. On May 3, 2022, Budd [said](#) of the draft Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe, “This could be [...] great.”

- **Pat McCrory** [says he supports](#) Roe being overturned. As governor, McCrory [renewed on a promise](#) to not [restrict abortion](#) rights.
- **Mark Walker** as a U.S. House member [sponsored](#) legislation that anti-abortion groups [praised](#) because it would “end abortion” rights. He’s urged the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade and [praised](#) Texas and Mississippi’s hardline abortion bans.

Nevada

- **Adam Laxalt** has, [despite widespread support for abortion rights](#) in Nevada, “[taken strongly anti-abortion positions](#)” including by describing “[himself as an opponent of abortion and, as attorney general, signed briefs supporting restrictive abortion laws in other states](#).” Abortion advocates in Nevada [have vocally opposed](#) his candidacy. Following the Republican SCOTUS appointees’ draft decision to overturn Roe, Laxalt has [made news](#) over [his craven refusal to clearly state](#) his position on abortion. But [he can’t hide](#) how far out of step he is with Nevada voters.

New Hampshire

- **Don Bolduc** has been clear he is “[not for abortion](#)” and [supports](#) Roe being overturned.
- **Bruce Fenton** says he [supports](#) Roe being overturned and [praised](#) Granite

State Republicans' abortion ban law that [mandates unnecessary ultrasounds and punishes](#) health care providers.

- **Chuck Morse** is a longtime opponent of abortion rights and says he [opposes](#) the Women's Health Protection Act. Morse has supported defunding Planned Parenthood. And as state Senate President, Morse was part of the legislative leadership team that [added a highly-restrictive abortion ban](#) to New Hampshire's most recent budget, [requiring](#) mandatory ultrasounds for all people seeking abortion health care and [punishment for doctors](#) who provide abortions. In early May, Morse [said](#) that he supports the Supreme Court overturning Roe and even bragged about his role as the "[key architect](#)" behind New Hampshire's first abortion ban in over a century.
- **Kevin Smith** [opposes](#) the Women's Health Protection Act. Smith has [plagiarized *verbatim*](#) from the [NRSC memo](#) instructing 2022 Republicans to lie about (and downplay) their anti-abortion views, even as he, in a [fundraising text message](#) sent out by his campaign, showed his true anti-abortion colors, cheering that Republicans "are SO close to ending abortion once and for all."

Ohio

- **JD Vance** [says that pregnancy](#) due to rape is "inconvenient," but he nevertheless supports the government to forcing people to carry pregnancies to term, even in cases of rape and incest.

Pennsylvania

- At a recent debate, **Kathy Barnette** and "[Every candidate said they support restricting abortion access](#), with only some — Bartos, Oz, and McCormick — saying they are in favor of exceptions in cases where a mother's life is at risk."
- **Mehmet Oz** supports outlawing abortion and [cheered](#) the Supreme Court

indicating, while [indicating](#) that he'd vote to ban abortion at the federal level if he's elected.

- **David McCormick** supports outlawing abortion and [called](#) the Supreme Court GOP appointees' decision to overturn Roe "a huge victory."

Wisconsin

- **Ron Johnson** in July 2021 [asked](#) the Supreme Court to [overturn](#) Roe v. Wade. He's [praised](#) the GOP SCOTUS appointees' decision to overturn Roe as "a really good decision" and "the correct decision." If Roe is overturned, as Johnson has urged and hoped, "[almost all abortions](#)" would be illegal in Wisconsin. Johnson confirmed that's his view during a May 10, 2022 interview, [arguing](#) that there should be no abortions in Wisconsin and saying that the 6,000 that he says happen per year are "6,000 too many."