

Democratic Lieutenant Governors Association: Form abortion rights alliance

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — As Republicans escalate their attacks on reproductive rights both in the legislature and in the courts, today, nearly two dozen Democratic Lieutenant Governors are announcing a Reproductive Freedom Coalition to protect reproductive rights. Spearheaded by Connecticut Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz, [this coalition](#) will “likely involve crafting model executive orders and legislation,” among other things.

Last week, Democratic Lieutenant Governors [gathered in Washington, D.C.](#) for the DLGA’s annual conference where they once again reiterated their resolve to protect rights in their respective states — including reproductive rights.

In case you missed it, check out [Axios’ new reporting](#) on how Democratic Lieutenant Governors are “align[ing] on abortion rights.”

[Dem lieutenant governors form abortion rights alliance](#)

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22 Democratic lieutenant governors are forming a coalition built around protecting abortion access in their states that will likely involve crafting model executive orders and legislation.

Driving the news: *The Reproductive Freedom Coalition — led by Connecticut Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz — comes as a [federal judge in Texas](#) weighs a case that*

could [end nationwide access](#) to one of the most commonly used [abortion pills](#) in the U.S.

The group announced its formation on Sunday night.

- “This is an important moment. Overturning *Roe v. Wade* was only the beginning,” Bysiewicz said in a statement. “[T]he need to stand firm with our patients and providers is clear.”

[...]

- Members include lieutenant governors from Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, which have a Democratic executive branch and Republican-controlled legislatures. Vermont’s lieutenant governor is also part of the new coalition, though the state has a Republican governor.

How it works: Beyond model executive orders and bills, the group intends to maximize the availability of federal funds for reproductive health care and back manufacturers of medication abortion, according to the group’s press release.

- It won’t involve [fundraising](#) like a Democratic Governors Association effort for protecting reproductive rights.

Between the lines: [21 Democratic governors](#) — led by California Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) — formed the [Reproductive Freedom Alliance](#) in February, a formal structure for governors to coordinate efforts in support of abortion rights.

To learn more, visit: www.DemocraticLGs.org, or follow [@DemocraticLGs](https://twitter.com/DemocraticLGs) on Twitter.