

## S 4612

### Right to Contraception Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jul 26, 2022

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jul 26, 2022)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/4612>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** MA • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors (25 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Ossoff, Jon [D-GA]	D · GA		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jul 27, 2022
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Jul 28, 2022
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Aug 4, 2022
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Sep 6, 2022

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 26, 2022

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Health

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 8373	Related bill	Jul 21, 2022: Received in the Senate.
117 S 4557	Related bill	Jul 19, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## Right to Contraception Act

This bill sets out statutory protections for an individual's right to access and a health care provider's right to provide contraception and related information. *Contraception* refers to an action taken to prevent pregnancy, including the use of contraceptives (i.e., a device or medication used to prevent pregnancy), fertility-awareness based methods, and sterilization procedures.

Generally, the bill prohibits measures that single out and impede access to contraception and related information. However, a party may defend against a claim that a measure violates the bill's prohibitions by demonstrating, through clear and convincing evidence, that the measure significantly advances the safety of contraception and cannot be achieved through less restrictive means. The bill also specifies that the prohibition preempts inconsistent state and local laws and applies in spite of other federal laws, including the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993.

The Department of Justice, individuals, or health care providers may bring a lawsuit to enforce this bill, and states are not immune from suits for violations.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jul 26, 2022:** Introduced in Senate
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