



COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
EXECUTIVE ORDER

Subject:
**ALLEGHENY
SHIELD**

Number:
2024-2

Date:
OCTOBER 10, 2024

By Direction of:
**SARA INNAMORATO,
COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States' Opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, No. 19-1392, 597 U.S. ____ (2022), has overturned its prior decision in *Roe v. Wade* (1973) and its progeny; and

WHEREAS, The *Dobbs* decision has ended nearly fifty years of precedent and reliance on the constitutional right to an abortion; and

WHEREAS, Many states, including some of Pennsylvania's nearest neighbors, have already banned abortion; and

WHEREAS, Some of those states may seek to use their abortion bans in an attempt to reach into Pennsylvania generally and Allegheny County specifically to threaten Pennsylvania abortion providers with prosecution; and

WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has in place Executive Order, 2022-01 – Reproductive Health Care, applicable to Commonwealth Executive Agencies that protects health care professionals and persons lawfully seeking and obtaining health care services in the Commonwealth, and Allegheny County seeks to act in furtherance of and in support of this Executive Order and state law; and

WHEREAS, The County has a duty to protect its citizens from the extra-legal overreach of overzealous out-of-state prosecutors seeking to hold Allegheny County residents accountable to foreign laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, County Executive Sara Innamorato, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Home Rule Charter of Allegheny County and other applicable laws, do hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1. *Definitions.*

- (a) For purposes of this Executive Order, “reproductive health care services” includes all medical, surgical, counseling, or referral services relating to the human reproductive system, including, but not limited to, services relating to contraception, pregnancy, the termination of a pregnancy, or gender-affirming care.
- (b) For purposes of this Executive Order, “County of Allegheny elected or appointed official, officer, employee, or department” includes and is limited to all Allegheny County officials, employees, or departments under the jurisdiction of the County Executive, as provided by the Home Rule Charter.

Section 2. *No Assistance from County Officials, Employees, or Departments.*

- (a) Except as required by Pennsylvania court order, Pennsylvania law, or federal law, no

County of Allegheny elected or appointed official, officer, employee, or department shall provide any information, or expend or use time, money, facilities, property, equipment, personnel, or other County resources in furtherance of any interstate investigation or proceeding that seeks to impose civil or criminal liability or professional sanction upon a person or entity for:

- (1) The provision, seeking or receipt of, or inquiring about reproductive health care services that are legal in this Commonwealth; or
 - (2) Any assistance given to any person or entity that relates to the provision, securing or receiving of, or any inquiry concerning reproductive health care services that are legal in this Commonwealth.
- (b) Subsection (a) does not apply to any interstate investigation or proceeding in which the conduct that is subject to potential liability under the investigation or proceeding would be subject to civil or criminal liability or professional sanction under Pennsylvania law if committed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- (c) Subsection (a) does not limit the rights and ability of employees to engage in conduct or express opinions in a private non-work-related capacity.

Section 4. *Implementation.*

The County Manager and County agencies under the County Executive's jurisdiction are directed to take all necessary steps to implement this Executive Order. County-affiliated or related entities are encouraged to make a good faith effort to advance the goals of this Executive Order. All actions taken shall be in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws.

Section 5. *Effective Date.*

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded by the Chief Executive.

Sara G. Innamorato
County Executive