

Health and Human Services Reproductive and Sexual Health Ombuds Act

To create a position within Health and Human Services that will improve access to sexual and reproductive health through greater public information, data collection, and insurance coverage.

The Health and Human Services Reproductive and Sexual Health Ombuds act will offer an opportunity for more research, planning, and consideration to occur around sexual and reproductive health.

Why Does This Matter?

Misinformation about reproductive care, especially abortion, is rampant, leaving individuals vulnerable to deceptive practices, delayed care, and or no care at all.

The Ombuds for Reproductive and Sexual Health established by this legislation will not only combat misinformation and disinformation, but also connect individuals to federally funded health providers, abortion funds, and trusted clinics, helping to close gaps in access to care. By promoting transparency, strengthening consumer protection and privacy, and raising awareness about coverage options under public and private health plans, this bill ensures that reproductive health care is treated as a right, not a privilege.

By the Numbers:

- One study of content related to reproductive health found that:
 - **23%** made medical recommendations made do not align with professional guidelines.
 - **33%** could mislead by claiming that treatment options were associated with unattributed risks.¹
- **71% of Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs)** use deceptive means such as spreading thoroughly debunked misinformation and **38%** do not clearly state on their home page that they do not provide abortion care.²
- More than **2.3 million women** of childbearing age in the U.S. live in a county where there are no OB-GYNs or birthing centers or hospitals that deliver babies.³
- **60% of all maternity-care** deserts are in rural areas, where healthcare closures have surged.³

[1] <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11968640/>

[2] <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25091391/>

[3] <https://www.marchofdimes.org/maternity-care-deserts-report>