



**REPro Equal Access Laws (REPEAL Act)**  
SB 1451 (Sen. Jennifer McClellan); HB 2491 (Del.  
Kathy Tran)

**Background:**

**REPro Equal Access Laws (REPEAL Act)** - In Virginia, we must repeal the medically unnecessary and overly burdensome regulations on abortion facilities that create barriers to access. This bill would repeal the 24-hour waiting period, ultrasound requirement, the TRAP statute and other medically-unnecessary laws. This bill would ensure that access to necessary reproductive healthcare does not depend on an individual's zip code or economic status.

**Comprehensive reproductive health care, including safe, legal abortion, is a vital component of a woman's overall health and must be protected.** On June 27, 2016, the United States Supreme Court issued a landmark decision in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*, reaffirming that access to abortion is a fundamental constitutional right and clarifying that restrictions that have no legitimate medical benefit place an undue burden on a person seeking an abortion and are therefore unconstitutional.

**Talking Points:**

**Virginia women, families, and communities benefit when a woman has access to the full range of comprehensive reproductive health care services, including abortion.**

- These laws are all designed to be harmful and burdensome for people seeking an abortion, which can ultimately put a person's health at risk when they are unable to access the healthcare that they need.

**A person is fully capable of making thoughtful decisions about their family, future, and health with the advice of a health care professional they trust, without interference from politicians.**

- No one can fully know the circumstances of a person facing a decision to end a pregnancy, and no one else can make that decision for her.

**Politicians, not doctors, are pushing these sham restrictions on a person's ability to access abortion.**

- Leading medical experts and organizations like ACOG and the AMA strongly oppose medically unnecessary restrictions on women's health care services.

**Abortion should be treated the same as other similarly-situated medical procedures, like colonoscopies and root-canals, and even miscarriages.**

- Abortion is proven to be one of the safest medical procedures in the United States, as first-trimester abortion carries less than a 0.05% risk of a complication that might require hospital care. Despite the facts, anti-choice politicians choose to put people in harm's way by not allowing them to make their own decisions about their healthcare.