



**TIM GRIFFIN**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 29, 2025

The Honorable John Thune  
Senate Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
House Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker and Leaders:

We, the undersigned Attorneys General, write urging Congress to consider taking action preempting abortion shield laws. Since the Supreme Court’s decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Org.*, several States have greatly restricted or prohibited abortion, including non-surgical abortions that rely on the use of abortion drugs. In response, different States passed laws purporting to “shield” abortion providers from liability and prosecution for performing or aiding in abortions in other States.<sup>1</sup> These laws are blatant attempts to interfere with States’ ability to enforce criminal laws within their borders and disrupt our constitutional structure. Therefore, we are asking Congress to assess the constitutional authority it may have to preempt shield laws.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://law.ucla.edu/academics/centers/center-reproductive-health-law-and-policy/shield-laws-reproductive-and-gender-affirming-health-care-state-law-guide>

The landmark *Dobbs* decision in 2022 returned regulation of abortion to the respective States.<sup>2</sup> Ever since that decision, Democrat-run, pro-abortion States have been attempting to hinder other States from regulating abortion by enacting “shield laws.” These shield laws attempt to protect shield-state residents from liability and prosecution when they violate pro-life States’ abortion laws. For example, some protect shield-state residents from extradition when they violate another State’s abortion laws by mailing abortion drugs to an individual in a State where abortion is illegal. By encouraging medical professionals in pro-abortion states to violate pro-life States’ abortion laws, shield laws are antithetical to the spirit of federalism and the *Dobbs* decision by not allowing each State to regulate abortion as it sees fit.

Shield laws also raise serious constitutional concerns. For example, they violate the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the Constitution because they do not give “full faith and credit” to the judicial proceedings occurring in other States. U.S. Const. art. IV, § 1. When New York or California refuses to respect a criminal prosecution or a civil judgment against an individual who is accused of violating the abortion laws of another State, they are refusing to give full faith and credit to that State’s judicial proceedings. Similarly, shield laws could run afoul of the Extradition Clause of the Constitution.

Congress should consider stepping in to remedy this problem. Instead of allowing pro-abortion States to disrespect the decisions of other States regarding abortion and trample the Constitution, Congress should assess whether it should tackle this issue head on with legislation that preempts state shield laws. This may ensure that each State retains the ability to restrict abortions as it sees fit within its borders without interference from other States and preserves federalism principles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Griffin".

Tim Griffin  
Arkansas Attorney General

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Marshall".

Steve Marshall  
Alabama Attorney General

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<sup>2</sup> “It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people’s elected representatives.” *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Org.*, 597 U.S. 215, 232 (2022).



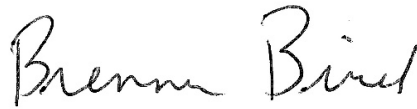
James Uthmeier  
Florida Attorney General



Raúl Labrador  
Idaho Attorney General



Todd Rokita  
Indiana Attorney General



Brenna Bird  
Iowa Attorney General



Kris W. Kobach  
Kansas Attorney General



Liz Murrill  
Louisiana Attorney General




Andrew T. Bailey  
Missouri Attorney General



Mike Hilgers  
Nebraska Attorney General



Gentner Drummond  
Oklahoma Attorney General



Alan Wilson  
South Carolina Attorney General



Marty Jackley  
South Dakota Attorney General



Ken Paxton  
Texas Attorney General



John B. McCuskey  
West Virginia Attorney General



Keith G. Kautz  
Wyoming Attorney General