



Home	Bill Information	California Law	Publications	Other Resources	My Subscriptions	My Favorites
------	------------------	----------------	--------------	-----------------	------------------	--------------

SB-1245 Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program. (2021-2022)

SHARE THIS:



Date Published: 09/28/2022 02:00 PM

Senate Bill No. 1245

CHAPTER 567

An act to add Article 7 (commencing with Section 123641) to Chapter 2 of Part 2 of Division 106 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to abortion.

[Approved by Governor September 27, 2022. Filed with Secretary of State September 27, 2022.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1245, Kamlager. Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program.

Existing law, the Reproductive Privacy Act, provides that every individual possesses a fundamental right of privacy with respect to their personal reproductive decisions, including the fundamental right to choose to bear a child or to choose and to obtain an abortion.

This bill would establish, using a \$20,000,000 appropriation made in the Budget Act of 2022 for this purpose, the Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program for the purpose of expanding and improving access to reproductive and sexual health care, including abortion, in the County of Los Angeles. The bill would require any funds allocated for the Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program to be used by the County of Los Angeles or its program administrator to administer a pilot project to support innovative approaches and patient-centered collaborations to expand and improve access to sexual and reproductive health care and to maintain a financial reporting system. The bill would authorize the funds to be used for implementing recommendations from the County of Los Angeles, including building secure infrastructure, among other things. The bill would require the program administrator to determine a funding framework to prioritize funding for pilot programs and projects and to provide an annual report to the Legislature on the projects and collaborations funded by the program. The bill would exempt specified program information from public disclosure.

Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Abortion care is a constitutional right and an integral part of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care.

(b) In May 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom signed a Proclamation on Reproductive Freedom reaffirming California's commitment to ensuring access to reproductive health care services, including abortion.

(c) If the United States Supreme Court overturns the protections under *Roe v. Wade* or allows a previability ban to remain in place, people in over one-half of the states in this country, over 36,000,000 women and other people who may become pregnant, will lose access to abortion care.

(d) California is committed to building upon existing protections to the right to abortion and implementing innovative and bold programs and policies to truly be a reproductive freedom state.

(e) The County of Los Angeles accounts for over one-third of all abortions in California and is home to 28 percent of the state's population.

(f) The County of Los Angeles has made a commitment to health equity and is preparing to become a haven for reproductive health care access.

(g) The State of California should create a pilot project in the County of Los Angeles for the purpose of advancing reproductive and sexual health care, specifically abortion, in the county.

(h) On January 25, 2022, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles unanimously passed a motion by Supervisors Holly J. Mitchell and Sheila Kuehl to ensure women's access to quality reproductive health care services. Specifically, the board instructed specified county departments, in coordination with reproductive health advocates, to report back with recommendations on actions that should be taken to enable the county and its partners to provide the full array of sexual and reproductive health services, including abortion, to all county residents who need them, and to ensure that the county continues to lead in its commitment of protecting reproductive rights for all who come to the county for these services.

SEC. 2. Article 7 (commencing with Section 123641) is added to Chapter 2 of Part 2 of Division 106 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

Article 7. Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program

123641. (a) (1) Of the amounts appropriated in Schedule (3) of Item 4260-101-0001 of the Budget Act of 2022 for this purpose, twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) is available for encumbrance and expenditure until June 30, 2028, to establish the Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program for the purpose of expanding and improving access to the full spectrum of sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion, in the County of Los Angeles.

(2) Up to 8 percent of funds allocated may be used by a program administrator, as designated by the County of Los Angeles, to cover administrative costs related to completing activities consistent with this section.

(b) Funds allocated to the County of Los Angeles or its program administrator for the Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program shall be used to administer a pilot project to support innovative approaches and patient-centered collaborations to safeguard patient access to abortions. Funds may be used for the purpose of implementing recommendations from the County of Los Angeles, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- (1) Providing medically accurate education and training tools to the community.
- (2) Providing training to health care workers and abortion providers.
- (3) Building secure infrastructure.
- (4) Countering misinformation campaigns and providing medically accurate information to health care providers and patients.
- (5) Coordinating care and patient support services.
- (6) Advancing and improving access to abortion.

(c) (1) The Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot program administrator shall use funds allocated under this section to maintain a system of financial reporting on all aspects of the fund. The financial reporting shall include information on expenditures and activities using the funds associated with this provision to ensure the use of the funds are consistent with the purposes of this section.

(2) For purposes of this section, the program administrator shall not require the submission of any identifying personal information about individuals providing, participating in, or receiving any service as part of an application for a grant or reporting of expenditures and activities using grant funds under this article. Information required by the program administrator shall only include information in summary, statistical, or other forms that do not identify particular individuals.

(d) The program administrator, as designated by the County of Los Angeles, shall determine a funding framework to prioritize funding for pilot programs and projects in consultation with stakeholders, including representatives from the local departments of public health, the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office, sexual and reproductive health providers that serve the region, and reproductive health, rights, and justice community-based organizations.

(e) The program administrator shall provide an annual report to the Legislature summarizing the projects and collaborations funded under this section. The report shall also include data on the balances of funds available under this division for expenditures in that fiscal year and future fiscal years. The first annual report shall be submitted on or before January 1, 2025, and shall cover the period of July 1, 2023, to July 1, 2024, inclusive. Each subsequent annual report shall be submitted on or before January 1, and shall cover the previous fiscal year. The report shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(f) An application for a grant under this article and financial reporting by grantees are exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code).

(g) The State Department of Health Care Services may enter into exclusive or nonexclusive contracts, or amend existing contracts, on a bid or negotiated basis for purposes of implementing this section. Contracts entered into or amended pursuant to this section are exempt from Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 14825) of Part 5.5 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, Section 19130 of the Government Code, Part 2 (commencing with Section 10100) of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code, and the State Administrative Manual, and are exempt from the review or approval of any division of the Department of General Services.

SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that Section 2 of this act, which adds Section 123641 to the Health and Safety Code, imposes a limitation on the public's right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

To protect and ensure the safety of those individuals and organizations seeking, providing, and supporting access to abortion in this state, California has an interest in protecting the privacy of these individuals and organizations that outweighs the public's right of access to grant applications and financial information involving these individuals and organizations.