

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arizona Community Organizations Call on Governor Ducey to Open a Special Session After Pima County Ruling

PHOENIX - Today, community organizations and stakeholders across Arizona sent the following letter to Governor Ducey, demanding that he call for a special session to repeal A.R.S. § 13-3603, a Civil War-era abortion ban. Arizonans deserve the freedom to have autonomy over their own personal medical decisions. Read a copy of the letter sent to Governor Ducey below:

The Honorable Governor Ducey
Office of the Governor
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ, 85007

Dear Governor Ducey,

We, the undersigned, are a group of community organizations and stakeholders calling on you to act on behalf of Arizonans. Gov. Ducey, we ask that you open a special session of the Arizona State Legislature to repeal A.R.S. § 13-3603, a Civil War-era abortion ban, first enacted in 1864. The law is now in effect both as a result of the decision in *Planned Parenthood. v. Brnovich* and prior efforts to stop its repeal.

We believe that each of us should have the freedom to decide how and when we start or grow a family, free from political interference or punishment. The statute, A.R.S. § 13-3603, imposes a mandatory two-to-five year prison sentence for providing abortion care. The law will have a devastating impact on Arizona families and our communities.

No one should be forced by the state to carry a pregnancy against their will and face the life-altering consequences of being denied essential health care. We urge you to call a special session immediately, without hesitation, for the purposes of repealing A.R.S. § 13-3603. Any hesitation on the part of your office to call a special session to repeal this outdated abortion ban demonstrates a blatant disregard for the health, wellbeing, and liberty of people who can become pregnant and their families. Thank you, and we look forward to you doing the right thing during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Abortion Fund of Arizona

ACLU of Arizona

American Association of University Women Arizona

Arizona Birthworkers of Color

Arizona Center for Women's Advancement

Arizona Family Health Partnership

Arizona List

Arizona NOW

Arizona Protect Our Care

Arizona Working Families Party

Asian Pacific Community in Action

Black Political Cultivation AZ

Camelback Family Planning

Central Phoenix Inez Casiano NOW

Desert Star Family Planning

Equality Arizona

Gabrielle Goodrick, MD

League of Women Voters Arizona

LULAC of Arizona

NARAL Pro-Choice Arizona

National Council of Jewish Women Arizona

National Institute for Reproductive Health

Patient Forward

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona

Pro-Choice Arizona

Progress Arizona

Secular AZ

State Conference NAACP

YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix

YWCA Southern Arizona