

## Quality Institute Position on Abortion Access in Light of Overturn of Roe v. Wade:

- The Quality Institute's mission is to improve the safety, quality, and affordability of health care for everyone. This includes access to safe, high-quality, and affordable abortion care.
- In alignment with organizations such as ACOG and the Society for Family Planning, the Quality Institute recognizes abortion as an essential health care service that should be decided on between an individual and their medical provider, free of undue barriers and outside influence.
- When individuals can make their own choices about starting or growing their families, personal and public health improves. Shared decision making and reproductive autonomy should be promoted in all policies related to reproductive health care and supported in the clinical setting.
- New Jersey has taken significant steps to improve maternal health outcomes and must continue its work, with a focus on eradicating health disparities. Numerous studies have found that restrictive abortion laws result in worse outcomes for pregnant individuals. Access to abortion should be considered in conjunction with the state's effort to improve maternal health outcomes.
  - *“A recent study estimated that banning abortion in the U.S. would lead to a 21% increase in the number of pregnancy-related deaths overall and a 33% increase among Black women, simply because staying pregnant is more dangerous than having an abortion. Increased deaths due to unsafe abortions or attempted abortions would be in addition to these estimates.” – [Harvard School of Public Health](#)*
- The Quality Institute applauds New Jersey's protect of the right to abortion in law. We acknowledge, however, the continuing need to address access for those with the least resources.
- The Quality Institute supports efforts that will increase access to free or low-cost reproductive health care, including contraceptive and abortion care. This includes services for New Jerseyans as well as individuals from states who may seek travel to New Jersey for necessary, safe health care.
- Our health care providers should be fully trained to provide abortion services to their patients who request them and should receive additional education and training to do so when necessary. They should be appropriately reimbursed for this care as they would other essential health care services.

- The Quality Institute supports proposals that for training grants for prospective abortion providers to ensure an adequate workforce, as well as funding for security for abortion centers and health care offices who provide most abortion-related services in the state.
- It is essential that our health care professionals can provide care for their patients without fear of prosecution from other states. The Quality Institute supports policies that will enact the appropriate safeguards to protect providers and patients involved in abortion care from being the target of legal action from states who have placed restrictions on the procedure.