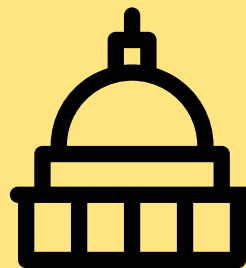
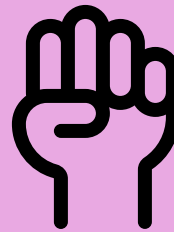


Alabama Young People's

URGE AL
UNITE FOR REPRODUCTIVE &
GENDER EQUITY ★ ALABAMA

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE POLICY AGENDA

2025



Introduction

URGE Alabama worked on several Reproductive Justice issues during the 2025 Legislative Session, including advocating for a bill to untax menstrual products, baby supplies & maternity clothing and defending against abstinence-only sex education. Over the past 4+ years, we've witnessed relentless attacks on our autonomy and democracy--something young people don't want. We've spoken to and surveyed young Alabamans, here's they actually want....

URGE Young People's Policy Agenda:

- Accessing Abortion Without Barriers
- Supporting Trans, Intersex, and Queer Young People
- Realizing the Potential of Our Democracy
- Accessing Healthcare and Comprehensive Sex Education
- Transforming Our Economy so Young People Thrive
- Creating Safe and Healthy Communities



Issue 1:

Accessing Abortion Without Barriers

Abortion is completely banned in Alabama, and we want to repeal those bans to increase access to abortion and decrease barriers to care.

You can see our factsheet on Abortion in Alabama [here](#).

For two legislative sessions now, Representative Yarbrough has brought a bill that would create the Prenatal Equal Protection Act, which would allow for the prosecution for homicide or assault for ending the life of an “unborn child” recognized at the moment of fertilization. It has not moved toward passage, but we are ready to stand against this harmful bill for as long as it takes.

Every year, Alabama legislators also introduce a set of bills that would provide tax credits for people to make contributions to Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs).

POLICY OPPORTUNITIES:



- **EXPOSING CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTERS, AND CALLING FOR LEGISLATION TO REGULATE THEM**
- **STAND AGAINST THE PRENATAL EQUAL PROTECTION ACT**

Issue 2:

Supporting Trans, Queer, and Intersex Young People

Anti-Trans legislation has been the leading priority for the Conservative Trifecta in Alabama since 2019. Several anti-trans laws have been passed and gone into effect since that time, including a ban on young people under the age of 19 being able to access gender affirming healthcare as well as anti-trans athlete bans for K-12 & post-secondary schools.

In 2025, the Alabama legislature passed the transmisogynistic “What is a Woman Act” which creates legal definitions for “male” and “female” to create single sex spaces and requires any public entity that collects vital statistics related to sex to identify participants sex they were assigned at birth. This harmful legislation goes into effect on October 1, 2025.

Another harmful bill to LGBTQ+ students at colleges and universities introduced in 2025 was HB 246, which would provide immunity to students and teachers to decline to use a person's correct pronouns or names. The bill did not move, but we are prepped and ready to combat it if it comes back.

WE OPPOSE:



- THE TRANSMISOGYNISTIC ‘WHAT IS A WOMAN’ ACT
- ANTI-TRANS ATHLETE LAWS
- HB 246, AN ANTI-TRANS LAW IMPACTING LGBTQ+ STUDENTS

Issue 2:

Supporting Trans, Queer, and Intersex Young People

In the summer of 2021, we worked alongside partners in Montgomery to try and get a Non-Discrimination Ordinance passed which ultimately failed. Non-Discrimination Ordinances are laws often decided on the municipal level that prohibit discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodation based on certain protected classes such as sexual orientation and gender identity.

You can see our Factsheet on LGBTQ+ Repro Health in Alabama [here](#).

POLICY OPPORTUNITIES:



- CONTINUING TO COMBAT ANTI-LGBTQ+ LEGISLATION
- FIGHTING FOR BETTER HEALTHCARE STANDARDS AND ACCESS FOR LGBTQ+ PEOPLE
- PASSING NON-DISCRIMINATION ORDINANCES ON THE MUNICIPAL LEVEL

Issue 3:

Realizing the Potential of Our Democracy

Voter suppression is a huge policy issue in Alabama; so many bills in the Alabama legislature address this. Most recently, the federal government had to intervene in a case to redraw congressional voting districts in Alabama to be in accordance with the Voting Rights Act.

POLICY OPPORTUNITIES:



- **END VOTER SUPPRESSION MEASURES**
- **ADDRESS GERRYMANDERING**
- **CRIMINALIZATION FOR MAKING MINOR VOTING MISTAKES**
- **DISENFRANCHISEMENT OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN INCARCERATED**
- **MAKE IT EASIER TO VOTE SUCH AS AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION, EARLY VOTING, POLLING LOCATIONS, AND VOTE BY MAIL**

Issue 4:

Accessing Healthcare and Comprehensive Sex Education

In 2021, URGE worked with organizational partners to pass a bill that updated the State Sex Education Code to get rid of antiquated and stigmatizing language around homosexuality, HIV, and AIDS as well as require it to be medically accurate.

In the 2024 & 2025 Alabama Legislative Sessions URGE:

OPPOSED HB 195 (2024) & SB 277 (2025) which would require that any sex education or human reproductive curriculum or program in a public K-12 school to exclusively teach sexual risk avoidance and encourage the avoidance of any nonmarital sexual activity. This bill would further provide for the sex education and human reproductive curriculum or program in public K-12 schools, including the provision of information about state laws relating to the financial cost of pregnancy and childcare, abortion, and adoption.

This bill would prohibit any sex education or human reproductive curriculum or program from supporting, demonstrating, or providing a referral to or information about how to acquire an abortion, from demonstrating the use of or providing distribution information regarding contraceptives, and from using graphic materials that are sexually explicit, normalize teenage sexual activity, or promote or encourage nonmarital sexual activity.

WE OPPOSE:



- **HB 195 (2024) & SB 277 (2025), AN ABSTINENCE-ONLY UNTIL MARRIAGE SEX EDUCATION BILL.**

Issue 4:

Accessing Healthcare and Comprehensive Sex Education

Sexual risk avoidance is also called abstinence-only-until marriage sex education. Numerous studies say that sexual risk avoidance programs do not work to reduce sexual activity.¹ At best, they have no effect; at worst they are harmful to youth, leading to shame and trauma. Leading medical associations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the Society for Adolescent Medicine are opposed to abstinence-only programs.

50% of Alabama high schoolers have had at least one sexual experience, so some teens are already choosing to have sex and we need to provide them with medically accurate information to protect themselves.² Young people deserve to have medically accurate information about their bodies and how to protect them.

The bill has been defeated both years. Thank Senators Figures, Coleman-Madison, & Smitherman for standing against this harmful legislation in 2025 which ultimately stopped it [here](#).

POLICY OPPORTUNITIES:



- **MEDICAID EXPANSION, LIKE SB 102 WHICH PROVIDES PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY FOR FOLKS TO ACCESS PREGNANCY MEDICAID BENEFITS EARLIER.**
- **CONTINUING TO COMBAT ABSTINENCE ONLY UNTIL MARRIAGE SEX EDUCATION**
- **ACCESS TO CONTRACEPTION, GENDER AFFIRMING CARE, HIV/AIDS CARE AND PREVENTION, MENTAL HEALTH AND THERAPY, AND PREGNANCY RELATED CARE**
- **FUNDING PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS LIKE ADDICTION SUPPORT, HIV/AIDS EDUCATION FUNDING, HEALTH DISPARITIES PROGRAMS, MATERNAL MORTALITY, PREGNANCY LOSS**
- **HEALTH EQUITY FOR IMMIGRANTS**

Issue 5:

Transforming Our Economy so Young People Can THRIVE

In Alabama, 58% of young voters think the economy and cost of living should be prioritized by policymakers. Providing a tax exemption for the sale of baby care products, maternity clothing, and period products would relieve the added costs of family care and menstruation management, reduce the negative health, social and financial outcomes for people who menstruate and those needing to care for their families.

In the 2024 & 2025 Alabama Legislative Sessions URGE: SUPPORTED SB 62 / HB 236 (2024) & HB 152 (2025) that exempts the purchase of certain baby supplies, baby formula, maternity clothing, and menstrual hygiene products for personal use from the state portion of sales and use tax.

We are elated to share that this bill that we have been working alongside members, organizational partners, and legislators over the previous two legislative sessions has passed and been signed into law by the Governor! This law went into effect on September 1, 2025 and removes the state sales tax from menstrual products, diapers, baby bottles, baby formula, baby wipes, breast pumps, breast milk pumping products, and maternity clothing. This will create material economic relief for young people all across the state who menstruate, get pregnant, and parent.

You can find our Menstrual Equity in Alabama Factsheet [here](#).

Contact your state Representative & Senator [here](#) to thank them for their support of this bill!



POLICY WIN!

URGE SUCCESSFULLY HELPED PASS HB 152 IN 2025, WHICH PROVIDES A SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS.

Issue 5:

Transforming Our Economy so Young People Can THRIVE



WE SUPPORTED:

- SB 62 / HB 236 (2024) & HB 152 (2025) , SALES TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS, MATERNITY PRODUCTS, AND BABY PRODUCTS



POLICY OPPORTUNITIES:

- ADDRESS COST OF LIVING, FOOD SECURITY, HOUSING, STUDENT DEBT, AND SUBSIDIZED CHILDCARE
- EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION
- PAID PARENTAL LEAVE FOR ALL ALABAMIANS
- REFORMING GOVERNMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS SUCH AS WIC/TANF/SNAP

Issue 6:

Creating Safe and Healthy Communities

Under existing Alabama law, any person who induces or attempts to induce an abortion, miscarriage, or premature delivery is guilty of a misdemeanor. We are working with Representative England to bring back the Pregnant Women's Dignity Act which would repeal the law providing that it is a misdemeanor to induce or attempt to induce an abortion, miscarriage, or premature delivery.

In the 2025 Legislative Session, we worked to support HB 138, the Alabama Women's Childbirth Alternatives, Resources, and Education (CARE) Act. This act would require that people who are admitted to jails who are pregnant be released on bail and have pre-incarceration probation to be served 12 weeks after the person has given birth.

Alabama faces ongoing scrutiny by the Federal Government for unconstitutionally inhumane prison conditions and Alabama has the 3rd highest infant mortality rate in the country.⁴

Pregnant people deserve to carry their pregnancies and give birth in their communities surrounded by loving and supportive care teams.

A harmful bill brought in the 2025 Legislative Session was HB 7 which would have expanded local and state enforcement of anti-immigration policies and ultimately failed. We worked against the bill and are ready to do so again if it comes back up.

WE SUPPORT



- **THE PREGNANT WOMEN'S DIGNITY ACT**
- **THE WOMEN'S CHILDBIRTH ALTERNATIVES, RESOURCES, AND EDUCATION (CARE) ACT**

THANK YOU!



From increasing youth voter engagement to engaging young people in policy advocacy, from organizing to shifting culture in our communities and online, URGE has cemented our reputation as innovative, impactful, and fearless in our fight for reproductive justice.

If you have interest in working with us on any of these policy areas, please reach out to Courtney Roark at croark@urge.org.

Contact us about starting an URGE Chapter at your college or university here: [How to Start an URGE chapter! - URGE](#)



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