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STATE SENATOR • SENATE DISTRICT 27

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ICYMI: Senate Republicans Reject Protecting Contraception Access

MADISON, Wis – On Tuesday, February 13, the State Senate took action on several proposals. With limited session days remaining this year, Senate Democrats attempted to pass the [Right to Contraception Act](#), a bill authored by Senator Dianne Hesselbein and Representative Lisa Subeck to create a statutory right to access birth control.

When *Roe v. Wade* was overturned, an individual’s constitutional right to abortion was rejected, and rights that people have long enjoyed, like a person’s right to access contraceptives, were put in jeopardy. Since the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling in June of 2022, reproductive freedom has been under constant attack throughout the nation. Because of these ongoing threats to individual liberties and bodily autonomy, Senate Democrats attempted to codify the right to access contraception in Wisconsin. Unfortunately, every single Senate Republican [voted against](#) moving this proposal forward.

Senator Dianne Hesselbein (D-Middleton) released the following statement:

“Birth control is viewed favorably by the majority of voters and people overwhelmingly support access to over-the-counter contraceptives. We know that birth control is essential healthcare, is often used to treat a variety of health conditions, and is critical to preventing unintended pregnancy. There is simply no good reason to leave its access in limbo as my Republican colleagues have chosen to do.

“Wisconsin Republicans had an opportunity to show they weren’t extremists like their national counterparts, but they chose to double down on their anti-choice, anti-woman, and anti-freedom position.

“Senate Democrats believe that we must assure Wisconsinites that decisions about their body and their health remain in their hands while ensuring that our laws honor those personal liberties. We will continue to advocate for policies that respect bodily autonomy and are supported by the overwhelming number of voters.”

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