

women
4change
— ACTION FUND —

2023

SESSION REPORT



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At Women4Change Indiana Action Fund, we mobilize Hoosiers to engage the Indiana General Assembly to pass legislation that advances fair and equal voting rights and better public policy outcomes in women's health, economic stability, and personal safety. We see a future where Hoosiers have equal voting rights, free and fair access to the ballot, and fair district lines.

Our legislative priorities for the 2023 session centered on fair voting and voter access, sexual harassment, assault and consent, women's health, and women's economic stability. We supported policies that expand Hoosier women's access to equitable pay, paid family leave, affordable childcare, birth control, and increased public funding for maternal care. Conversely, we opposed legislation that discriminates against transgender youth and limits voter accessibility.

In total, we tracked 96 bills through the legislative process, provided testimony for 6 consequential bills, and saw 3 positive bills move forward with bipartisan support.



BY THE NUMBERS

3 BILLS PASSED
5 AUTHORS
17 CO-AUTHORS
16 SPONSORS
ALL BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

96

the number of bills we tracked during the 2023 legislative session

500 + ADVOCACY MESSAGES TO LEGISLATORS

200 + HAND WRITTEN LETTERS TO LEGISLATORS

120 + NEW ACTION ADVOCATES

Bills we testified for

SB 252

Long acting reversible contraceptives

HB 1228

Child seduction

HB 1568

Prescription for hormonal contraceptives

Bills we testified against

SB 480

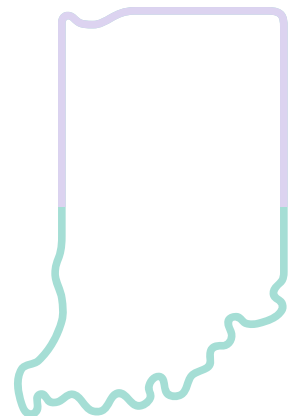
Gender transition procedures for minors

HB 1334

Absentee voting

HB 1608

Education matters



THE IMPACT: BILLS PASSED

SB 252

Allows a long acting reversible contraceptive that is prescribed to and obtained for a Medicaid recipient to be transferred to another Medicaid recipient if certain requirements are met. This bill limits medical waste and allows more Hoosiers to have access to the reproductive care they deserve.

HB 1228

Defines "coach", "workplace supervisor", and "youth sports organization", and provides that the coach of a youth sports organization or a workplace supervisor commits child seduction if the person engages in sexual activity with a child less than 18 years of age and certain other conditions are met. Reduces the age difference from five years to four years for child seduction committed by a law enforcement officer. This bill further protects youth in sports organizations and workplace environments from child seduction .

HB 1568

Allows pharmacists to prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered hormonal contraceptives and establishes requirements for pharmacists who elect to prescribe and dispense contraceptives. With 428,540 Indiana women in need living in contraceptive deserts and 104,380 women in need living in counties without access to a single health center that provides the full range of methods, this will allow more Hoosiers to receive the reproductive care they deserve. (Statistics: [Power to Decide](#))



OUR TESTIMONIES

Our staff provided testimony on 6 priority bills during the 2023 legislative session. The following are excerpts of testimony we provided on 4 of the bills:

SB 252 expands access for long acting reversible contraceptives to Medicaid recipients.

Our Testimony in Support: "With 428,540 Hoosier women in need living in contraceptive deserts, we believe this bill promotes a future for Hoosiers to have better access to healthcare. This bill allows more opportunities for Medicaid patients to receive the health care they deserve."

-Noelle Snider, Director of Communications

HB 1568 allows pharmacists who meet certain requirements to prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered hormonal contraceptives.

Our Testimony in Support: "Giving Pharmacists the opportunity to prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered hormonal contraceptives would assist the Hoosiers that live in current contraceptive deserts and eventually lower those numbers."

-Anna White, Legislative Intern



OUR TESTIMONIES

HB 1334 requires anyone applying for an absentee by mail ballot to include a copy of their driver's license or the last four digits of their social security number.

Our Testimony in Opposition: "Indiana consistently ranks in the bottom 10 states for voter turnout. We should be working on getting more voters to vote, not the opposite. Increased barriers only hurt voters that want to make their voices heard. I urge you to oppose House Bill 1334."

-Haley Bougher, Vice President

HB 1608 prohibits instruction to students from pre-k through grade 3 on human sexuality and requires forms for students under 18 to change the name, pronouns, title, or word to identify the student.

Our Testimony in Opposition:

"As a society, we have made significant strides in recognizing and celebrating diversity in all its forms. We cannot allow this bill to set us back. We must continue to foster an inclusive and accepting environment in our classrooms, where all students feel safe, seen, and heard."

-Rima Shahid, CEO





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