What's Going on with Abortion Access in Utah?

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Is abortion legal in Utah?

Yes. Abortion access is legal in Utah up to 18 weeks of pregnancy and available at Planned Parenthood Association of Utah health centers. To make an appointment, call 1-800-230-PLAN or go to www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-utah

I thought the Utah Legislature banned abortion. How is it still legal?

The two abortion bans – the "trigger ban" and "clinic ban" – passed by the Utah Legislature in recent years have been temporarily blocked by injunctions issued by a state court. These injunctions prevent the bans from taking effect until the constitutionality of the laws are considered by the judicial system.

What is the latest on Planned Parenthood's lawsuit against Utah's abortion bans?

Our lawsuit is on hold while the Utah Supreme Court considers the State's request to remove the injunction blocking the "trigger ban." During a hearing on August 8, 2023, Planned Parenthood attorney Camila Vega explained how the injunction is "currently shielding the women and families of Utah from great harm to their health and their rights." She argued access to abortion care is essential for women to secure full access to all the other fundamental constitutional rights guaranteed for Utahns. Following the hearing, the Utah Supreme Court is now deciding whether to keep the injunction in place.

PPAU attorneys Camila Vega (Associate Staff Attorney, PPFA), Julie Murrary (Senior Staff Attorney, ACLU State Supreme Court Initiative), and Troy Booher (Appellate Attorney, Zimmerman Booher) prepare for the Utah Supreme Court hearing on August 8, 2023.

What happens next?

Abortion care is currently legal in Utah up to 18 weeks of pregnancy because the two injunctions against the "trigger" and "clinic" bans remain in place. There is no clear timeline for when the justices will decide whether to continue the injunction in the trigger ban case.