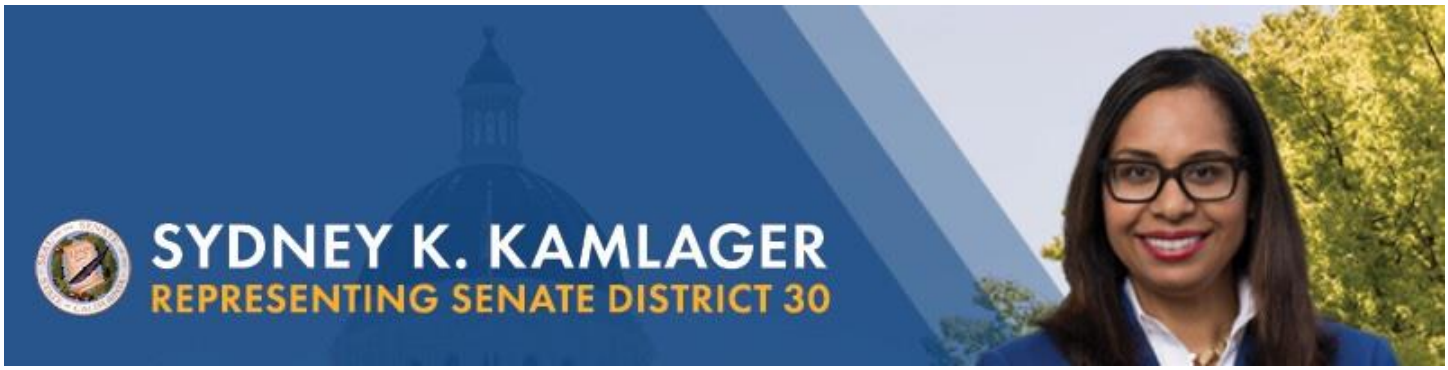


FACT SHEET: SB 1245 – L.A. County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program

IN BRIEF

Senate Bill 1245 will support a funded pilot program for Los Angeles County to build on the statewide efforts to advance California as a "Reproductive Freedom" State. The program will house innovative approaches and patient-centered collaborations to safeguard access to abortion for patients coming to Los Angeles County, regardless of where a patient resides.

BACKGROUND & PROBLEM

This year, the U.S. Supreme Court is reviewing a direct challenge to the constitutional right to abortion established in Roe v. Wade. Should the Court uphold Mississippi's ban, thereby overturning *Roe*, people in over half of the states in the country – over 36 million women and other people who may become pregnant – will lose access to abortion care. It is already happening. People in Texas have been denied protections under Roe since the state's extreme abortion ban went into effect last year. According to a report released by the Guttmacher Institute, the number of out-of-state patients who would find their nearest abortion provider in California from 46,000 to 1.4 million – an increase of nearly 3,000%.

Los Angeles County, home to 28% of the state's population, accounts for over a third of all abortions that take place in California. The prevalence of abortion in Los Angeles County, in particular, likely reflects better access in the city than other parts of California and even other states in the nation. This prevalence, coupled with the County's role as a major metropolitan transportation hub with multiple airports, makes it's highly likely that nonresidents will come to Los Angeles County for the abortion care they will not be able to access in their home state or county.

SOLUTION

Los Angeles County has already made evident commitments to health equity. The County has a record of successful innovations in care coordination through programs such as My Health LA E-Consult system, LANES Health Information Exchange, and the whole person care pilot programs which are now informing CalAIM's statewide efforts.

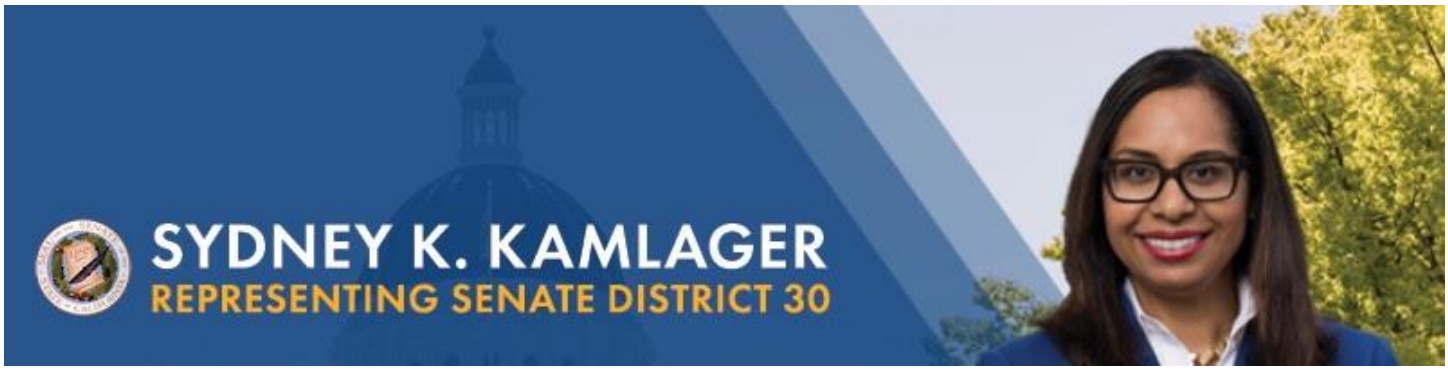
Building upon the Los Angeles County's Board of Supervisors resolution of building a county wide response to the potential overturn of Roe v. Wade, SB 1245 would fund and support a pilot program approach to care that is responsive to the impending needs of people seeking abortion care.

Key funding areas for the pilot program will include: services that prioritize efforts to advance and improve health outcomes, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services, streamlined and secure infrastructure to coordinate care and other patient support services, patient access tools to empower patients to overcome barriers to care, medically accurate education and training tools specific to community needs within the county, and patient and community outreach to assess County services.

With abortion rights already eroding in numerous states, and the future of *Roe v. Wade* hanging in the balance, now is the time to put forward innovative investments in abortion access.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Nikki Johnson
Nikki.johnson@sen.ca.gov or (916) 651-4030



SUPPORT

- Planned Parenthood Advocacy Project Los Angeles County Action Fund (co-sponsor)
- Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California (co-sponsor)
- ACCESS Reproductive Justice
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists District IX
- California Academy of Family Physicians
- California Latinas for Reproductive Justice
- California Legislative Women's Caucus
- California Nurse Midwives Association
- California Women's Law Center
- Capitol Resource Institute
- City of Los Angeles
- County of Los Angeles
- Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
- NARAL Pro-Choice California
- National Center for Youth Law
- Women's Foundation California