

Arizona

Shield Law Fact Sheet

AUGUST 2024

In June 2023, the Governor of Arizona issued executive orders providing shield law protections that bar state agency assistance, arrests, and extradition for investigations into and prosecutions of health care legal under Arizona law. These shield laws may provide limited protection, however, depending on the state's own restrictions on reproductive and gender-affirming health care.

PROTECTION AGAINST OUT-OF-STATE INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS

Protection Barring State Agency/Employee Assistance

Executive Orders issued in June 2023 prohibit state agencies from assisting in out-of-state investigations relating to reproductive health care and gender-affirming health care that would not be punishable under Arizona law.¹

Protection against Extradition and Arrests

Executive Orders issued in June 2023 provide that, to the extent permissible under Arizona and federal law, the administration will decline requests for arrest or extradition seeking to prosecute those providing, receiving, or supporting reproductive health care and gender-affirming health care unless the acts would also be punishable as a criminal offense under Arizona law.²

¹ Ariz. Exec. Order 2023-11, Protecting Reproductive Freedom and Healthcare in Arizona (June 22, 2023), available at: https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/executive_order_2023_11.pdf; Ariz. Exec. Order 2023-12, Ensuring Access to Medically Necessary Gender-Affirming Healthcare (June 27, 2023), available at https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/executive_order_2023-12.pdf.

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ABOUT THE CENTER ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, LAW, AND POLICY (CRHLP)

CRHLP is a nationwide think tank and research center created to meet the current national crisis in access to abortion while working towards long-term solutions to advance reproductive justice. CRHLP conducts analysis and research for legal, policy, and narrative change and serves as a trusted hub for convening and engaging academics, advocates, health care providers, policy makers, and community members to reimagine the landscape of reproductive health law and policy. CRHLP also trains the reproductive law and policy leaders of tomorrow. CRHLP is committed to the highest standards of independent inquiry, academic excellence, and rigor. Research findings and conclusions are never altered to accommodate other interests, including those of funders, other organizations, or government bodies and officials.

For more information

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To receive pro bono legal assistance on questions related to the shield laws or other reproductive rights or justice issues, email: larj@law.ucla.edu