

Date: August 3, 2022 To: Interested Parties Re: With fewer than 100 days left before midterms, Kansans prove that reproductive freedom will drive Americans to vote

Yesterday, Kansans <u>delivered a resounding defeat</u> to an anti-choice constitutional amendment that would have paved the way for a total ban on abortion in the state—**reaffirming that abortion is poised to be a key vote-driver in elections in red, blue, and purple states**. It's clear that a strong coalition of voters are mobilizing to defend reproductive freedom as Republican lawmakers across the country are escalating their attacks on abortion now that the Supreme Court has overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

Both <u>the recent results in Kansas</u> as well as a wealth of new polling confirms an uptick in motivation among American voters to hold these extremists accountable at the polls in the 2022 midterm elections.

- The number of Democrats who said the Supreme Court's decision made them more likely to vote **more than doubled** from early June to post-decision, with 64% of Democrats reporting an increased motivation to vote (<u>USA TODAY/Suffolk University</u>);
- 78% of Democrats say the Supreme Court's ruling makes them more likely to vote in November—24 points higher than Republicans (<u>NPR/PBS NewsHour/Marist</u>);
- 62% said it was "very important" or "somewhat important" to support candidates in the 2022 elections who support abortion access (<u>Morning Consult-Politico</u>);
- The percentage of U.S. adults who name abortion or women's rights in an open-ended question as one of up to five problems they want the government to work on has more than doubled since December (<u>Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs</u> <u>Research</u>);
- Not only do Americans overwhelmingly condemn the Supreme Court's decision to end Roe, there has been a 10-point increase in Democrats who say this decision will make them more likely to vote in the midterm elections (<u>CBS News</u>);
- And among Kansans who registered to vote following the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision, Democratic voters have an 8-point advantage—as opposed to a 19-point Republican advantage in the state overall. 70% of these newly registered Kansan voters were women (<u>Target Smart</u>).

It is clear that this fight transcends the red-blue divide. We've long known that the vast majority of people in the United States support reproductive freedom—and now, they are more motivated than ever before, with Kansans on the vanguard of the fight. This Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe* has made voters more determined to elect champions whom we can count on to protect our fundamental rights.

The 2022 midterm elections come as abortion rights and access in the United States face an urgent and dire crisis. Now that the Supreme Court has overturned *Roe* in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization,* roughly half of states are banning or are at risk of banning abortion. Anti-choice lawmakers have already <u>filed over 500 restrictions on abortion</u> this year.

Voters will be looking to candidates up and down the ballot—including in state legislative, attorneys general, secretaries of state, gubernatorial, and federal races—to affirm their commitment to protecting abortion access. Now that the Court has ended *Roe*, strong majorities of Americans—in red, blue, and purple states—are even more eager to elect leaders that reflect the values of the <u>8 in 10 Americans</u> who support the legal right to abortion.