



MAINE

MAINE AT A GLANCE

EXISTENCE AND STATUS OF ABORTION BAN	STATE CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION OF ABORTION RIGHTS	STATUTORY PROTECTION OF ABORTION RIGHTS	OTHER FACTORS
No ban	None established	Reproductive privacy act on the books	Unlikely to enact new ban



Existence and Status of Abortion Ban: No abortion ban. The legislature repealed Maine’s pre-*Roe* ban.

State Constitutional Protection of Abortion Rights: None established.

Statutory Protection of Abortion Rights: Maine has enacted a reproductive privacy act, declaring the state’s policy of support for abortion rights.⁷⁸ It states:

It is the public policy of the State that the State not restrict a woman’s exercise of her private decision to terminate a pregnancy before viability except as provided in section 1597-A.⁷⁹

Other Factors: Maine voters have rejected a ban on so-called “partial-birth abortion” at the polls, and both the legislature and governor are considered pro-choice. It is therefore unlikely that Maine will move to prohibit abortion if *Roe* is overruled.

Conclusion: Currently there is no abortion ban on the books in Maine, and it is unlikely that one will be enacted if *Roe* is overturned.

Legislative Session in Maine: Dec. 1, 2004 – June 15, 2005
Source: National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) website
<http://www.ncsl.org/programs/legman/about/sess2005.htm>

⁷⁸ ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 22, § 1598.

⁷⁹ *Id.* Section 1597-A regulates a minor’s ability to obtain an abortion in Maine.