



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Toby Ann Stavisky

Governor Hochul Signs Senator Stavisky's Legislation to Expand Access to Reproductive Health Care for New Yorkers

TOBY ANN STAVISKY May 4, 2023

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ALBANY- On Tuesday, Governor Kathy Hochul signed key legislation to expand access to reproductive health care across the state. Senator Toby Ann Stavisky sponsored this legislation, which was part of the “Safe Harbor for All” package, expanding access to hormonal contraception by making it available over the counter.

This legislation was sponsored in the Assembly by Amy Paulin. It will allow pharmacists to dispense birth control medication and devices without a patient specific written prescription from a licensed doctor or nurse practitioner. The patient has to complete a questionnaire that the pharmacist will review to assess

any risks to the patient.

"Women in New York State face many obstacles when it comes to accessible birth control," **said State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky (D-11th District)**. "This new law will enable women, some without a health care provider, to safely obtain birth control medications. This legislation will benefit many women with limited income or who live in rural areas, and I thank the Governor for signing it into law."

Governor Kathy Hochul said, "As anti-choice extremists and judges continue to roll back abortion rights across the country, we are fighting back here in New York. I am proud to sign these landmark pieces of legislation that protect and expand access to reproductive health care. Under my watch, I will continue to ensure that New York remains a safe harbor for those in need of care."

Assemblymember Amy Paulin said, "By expanding the ability of pharmacists to provide contraceptives, we will put birth control within reach of many who otherwise wouldn't have access. This expanded access gives women more control over their family planning, education, careers and lives. I thank NYS Senator Toby Stavisky for her partnership in the NYS Senate and Governor Hochul for taking this important step to support women