

Repeal the FACE Act Before It's Too Late

The debate over the FACE Act is not about public safety.

It is about:

- Equal justice under an unconstitutional law that is selectively enforced
- Limits on federal power
- The protection of First Amendment rights

The FACE Act is a tool for biased enforcement and has never been applied fairly. It must be repealed.

What is the FACE Act?

The Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act is a federal law passed in 1994. Its stated purpose was to prohibit the use of force, threats, or physical obstruction against individuals seeking access to abortion clinics, pregnancy resource centers, or places of worship. These activities are generally already illegal under state law.

Signed by Democrat President Bill Clinton, the FACE Act was intended to discourage even peaceful pro-life activity. States a report by the [Heritage Foundation](#): “From the very beginning, the FACE Act’s legislative trajectory made its weaponization against ordinary pro-life activity and expression almost inevitable.”

A Ticking Time Bomb

The Clinton administration aggressively used the FACE Act against pro-lifers, but after that, the FACE Act was sparingly applied. Notes Heritage:

From 1994 to January 2021, an estimated 142 cases were prosecuted under the FACE Act. Only one known case, in 1995, was in defense of pro-life facilities. Three cases involved threats or violence against mosques. None appear to have been brought in defense of churches. In sum, while 80 cases were brought during the Clinton Administration, only 16 were brought during the Bush Administration, 27 during the Obama Administration, 19

during the first Trump Administration, and two during the first year of the Biden Administration.

Throughout its existence, the FACE Act also has been repeatedly challenged in court as being unconstitutional.

These essential problems came to a head following the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* in 2022. Following that U.S. Supreme Court decision, the Biden administration ramped up use of the FACE Act as a weapon against pro-lifers.

How has the FACE Act been weaponized against pro-lifers?

A recent review by the [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ) validates that under the Biden administration the FACE Act was enforced in a biased manner.

The DOJ report and [Congressional hearings](#) identified a pattern of enforcement that disproportionately targets pro-life Americans while failing to address attacks on pregnancy resource centers and churches.

Under this pattern:

- The homes of pro-life activists were raided by FBI SWAT teams and pro-lifers faced federal prosecution;
- Incidents involving violence against PRCs and places of worship received little to no attention;
- Enforcement decisions were influenced by outside nongovernmental advocacy organizations that support abortion.

The result has been a double standard, where the same law is applied differently depending on viewpoint. This raises serious concerns about First Amendment protections, especially regarding free speech and religious liberty.

Why should the FACE Act be repealed?

The FACE Act federalizes crimes that are already illegal under state law, such as assault, trespass, and harassment. It thus violates the federalist principles of good government, which entrust such “police power” activities primarily to the states. The Act is not necessary and is likely unconstitutional.

Repealing the FACE Act would also reduce the risk of unequal enforcement. If a law repeatedly produces unequal outcomes and selective enforcement, the issue is not enforcement alone. It is the law itself.

Why hasn't Congress repealed the FACE Act?

Legislation ([H.R. 589](#)) to repeal the FACE Act was introduced in 2025 and has more than 40 cosponsors.

The path for repeal, however, faces political challenges:

- Divisions in Congress and a lack of political will by House and Senate leadership
- Concerns about Senate opposition
- Competing legislative priorities

Pray for the repeal of the FACE Act. And urge your U.S. House and Senate members to repeal the FACE Act before it's too late. Find out who represents you by going to [iVoterGuide.com](https://www.IVoterGuide.com).