



**Senate Education and Health Committee, Health  
Subcommittee**

**February 4, 2026**

SB596

Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement.

The League of Women Voters of Virginia supports SB596. Contraceptives were not legal for unmarried women until 1972. Those of us who grew to adulthood prior to this Supreme Court decision know all too well how important effective contraception has been to the lives of women and families for more than 50 years. Today's young adults cannot imagine that contraception might not be available to them. Yet some states are actively working to limit access to contraceptives as we speak.

This bill assures Virginians have the right to obtain and use contraceptives and protects the health care providers and others who assist in providing contraceptives.

Virginia needs to codify access to contraception and approve SB596.