

## Core NOW Issues:

- Economic justice
  - Fair pay
  - Childcare - Moving childcare from DHS to BOE (HB 2059); Tax Credits (SB 78, 217, 218, 221); deregulation (SB44)
  - Paid leave
  - Public school funding
  - Public assistance
    - Homelessness - Camping ban (SB 134, 504, HB 2382); Homeless Education Coordinator (SB 214); Hotel housing (HB 2030)
    - Medicaid funding - governor's budget does not take any \$ from medicaid
    - Poverty/Hunger - User photos on EBT (SB 59); Expanding work requirements for SNAP (SB 249); no sugary drinks or candy on SNAP (HB 2350)
- Reproductive freedom and justice
  - Infant and maternal health
    - Doula testimony [form](#) is still live - please contribute if you used a doula
    - Catherine, Lynda, Rhonda, Bekah working on social media campaign
    - Working to set up meetings with senators on health this week
    - 2/19 Maternal and infant health advocacy day 12-4pm - [Registration](#)
    - Bills - Medicaid coverage for doula services (SB 40, 292); CPM licensure (SB 84, 482); postpartum medicaid (SB 160); birthing center licensure (HB 2174)
  - Abortion - Heartbeat bill (SB 17); removing exceptions (SB 51); prohibiting sale or use of abortion drugs (SB 85, 97); abortion reversal in medical schools (HB 2151); inaccurate public health info (HB 2352)
  - Sex Ed/Contraception - Parental notification (SB 69, 72, 268,); Baby Olivia (SB 94, HB 2150); long acting contraceptives to people with substance use issues (HB 2349)
  - Menstrual equity - (SB 111)
  - Public accommodation - Lactation rooms in govt buildings (SB 171); Baby changing areas at rest stops (HB 2136)
- Opposing racism
  - CROWN act
    - Del Hamilton is re-introducing the bill
  - Bills: Anti DEI/education on racism (SB 201 277, 424, 474), monument protections (SB 71)
- LGBTQIA+ rights
  - Anti trans bills:
    - Education/Government (SB 202, 244, 424, 456, HB 2127)
    - Medical (SB 279, 299, HB 2072, 2375)
  - Criminalizing drag shows (SB 276, 431)
- Ending violence against women
  - Support full funding for Domestic Violence services (Justice and Community Services Section of DHS)
    - Per WVCCBP the governor's budget has full funding for VOCA in the front of the budget
  - Bills: Providing transport for higher ed students who have experience sexual violence (SB 216); criminalizing AI/digital porn (SB 170, 198, 254); criminal penalties sexual extortion (SB 222, 240); Domestic violence registry (HB 2366); Military protection orders may be considered as evidence of need for an emergency protective order (HB 2057)
- Other bills:
  - Broadening vaccine exemptions for religious or philosophical objections (SB 460 - passed Senate Health 2/13); call senators and share [quick action alert](#) from WVFree

- Libraries criminally liable for “obscene matter” (HB 2396)

## Other updates

- House Rules - Committee substitute in rules committee made further changes and was passed by the house on 2/12, multiple amendments failed
  - Bills will have 2 day process in committee - Day 1 explanation by sponsor and public comment (at pleasure of the chair), Day 2 amendments, mark up, questions of counsel and vote
  - Goal to have agendas out with 24hr notice but this is not required
  - Submitted written comments will go into public record
  - No public hearings
- Meeting with Women’s Caucus - touched base with co-chair, waiting on response
- Issue based toolkit to send out to listserve with one pagers on each issue and our intro letter - in process
- Participate in coalitions
  - Childcare - Chris + Bekah
  - LAT for children and families - Lynda
  - Infant and maternal health - Bekah + Lynda
  - Together for public schools - had a call this week, expect more activity from this
  - Communication with WV Women’s Alliance - event in Morgantown in March
- Comms:
  - 2nd [Roz report](#) on how a bill passes, Next Roz Report will be on vaccine bill SB 460 - please share
  - Infographic campaign for infant and maternal health should be out this week, share it if you see it
- Support legislators doing good work
  - Thursday luncheons by county dem exec committees around the state for all dem legislators and their staff - individuals would be welcome to attend or support this effort, [sign up](#)

## Misc

- Website for federal issues: <https://www.democracymarket.com>
- [Reject the Save Act](#) (federal bill, has impacts on LGBTQ+ and womens voting rights, may be fast tracked through congress)
- [Registration](#) is open for National NOW conference in Las Vegas
- House Dem Caucus should be very active on social, here is [substack](#)

## Dates

- 2/18 [Environment and Racial Justice Movie night](#) in Charleston (A-Nya, Fair Shake)
- 2/19 [ACLU day](#) at capitol; [Infant and Maternal Health Advocacy day](#) 12-4 pm; WVCBP 4-6:30 Budget and Bites event, [register](#)
- 3/8 KVNOW international womens day luncheon at KV Library
- 3/08 CAG citizen lobbyist training [registration link](#)
- 3/10 - [Black Policy Day](#)
- 3/18 last day to introduce house bills
  
- 3/24 last day to introduce senate bills
- 4/2 crossover day
- 4/4 Repro Healthcare Advocacy Day with PP
- 4/12 last day of session

\*\*\*Color coding: red = bad bill, green = good bill, blue = link, highlight = moving bill or new action