

# Amazon v. Roe: The Online Retailer's Hypocrisy on Abortion Rights

**United for Respect**

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## Introduction

On June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court issued its decision in *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, overturning *Roe vs. Wade* and stripping abortion rights from millions of Americans. In the aftermath of the decision, attention turned to the statements and press releases from corporations clarifying their support for abortion rights. Amazon, in particular, was touted for its policy of reimbursing the travel expenses of employees who would have to leave their states to access abortion care.

But on that very same day, June 24th 2022, Amazon made two contributions totalling \$25,000 to the Republican State Leadership Committee, a political action committee that has funded and supported some of the legislators responsible for the abortion bans suddenly coming into effect across the country. In fact, despite the public pronouncements from Amazon in support of reproductive rights, behind the scenes, the company has contributed over a \$1.5 million in just the past few years to anti-abortion candidates and committees.

This history of political giving stands in contrast with Amazon's public image around abortion rights, and has contributed to the undermining of reproductive rights for employees and customers. In this report, *United for Respect* looks at how the reversal of *Roe v. Wade* will impact Amazon employees specifically, while attempting an initial accounting of the generous political contributions Amazon has made to anti-abortion political candidates and committees since 2016.

## Impact on employees

- 216,000 Amazon employees live in states where abortion is fully banned.
- 180,000 Amazon employees live in states where abortion is partially banned.
- Amazon has announced travel reimbursement for employees needing to seek out-of-state abortion care, but hundreds of thousands of part-time, seasonal, third-party contracted, and app-based workers appear to be excluded from this benefit.

- Concerns remain around whether employees needing abortion-care will be able to take time off from work, afford child-care, and protect their privacy.

### **Political giving since 2016**

- Amazon has contributed \$200,500 to key anti-abortion senators and committees.
- Amazon has contributed \$974,268 to anti-abortion governors and the Republican Governors Association.
- Amazon has contributed \$212,500 to Republican Attorneys General Association which funds and supports anti-abortion attorneys general.
- Amazon has contributed \$201,681 to the Republican State Leadership Committee which funds and supports anti-abortion down-ballot candidates.

These figures make clear that Amazon, as an employer and provider of health benefits, plays an outsized role in safeguarding the reproductive rights of hundreds of thousands of associates and their families, while at the same time its political arm has undermined those very same rights by funding political campaigns and committees intent on restricting access to abortion. If Amazon really wants to be the *“Earth’s safest place to work”*, it must commit to protecting the reproductive health and freedoms of its employees beyond the workplace, and should stop funding candidates and committees that seek to restrict abortion care.

## **Impacted Employees**

As the second largest private employer in the country, Amazon employs around 1.1 million U.S. workers. Post *Roe*, as states rush to pass abortion bans and restrictions, hundreds of thousands of these workers have seen their reproductive rights and bodily autonomy come under attack. Specifically, 216,000 Amazon employees live in states where abortion has already been fully banned. Another 181,000 employees live in states with partial bans, and 76,000 more workers live in states where bans have either been temporarily blocked or are on the way.<sup>1 2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>[“Tracking the States Where Abortion Is Now Banned.”](#) *New York Times*. Accessed on August 25, 2022.

<sup>2</sup>[“Investing in the U.S.”](#) *Amazon*. 2022. Accessed on August 29, 2022.

**Table 1. Number of Amazon employees in states where abortion is banned or under threat**

<b>State</b>	<b>Abortion Status</b>	<b>Amazon Employees</b>	<b>Estimated Amazon Employees who are Women</b>
Alabama	Full Ban	9,000	4,527
Arizona	Ban blocked	40,000	20,120
Arkansas	Full Ban	4,000	2,012
Florida	15 week ban	59,000	29,677
Georgia	six week ban	37,000	18,611
Idaho	Full Ban	4,500	2,263
Indiana	Ban blocked	24,000	12,072
Iowa	Ban blocked	2,500	1,257
Kentucky	Full Ban	25,000	12,575
Louisiana	Full Ban	7,000	3,521
Michigan	Ban blocked	26,000	13,078
Mississippi	Full Ban	3,500	1,760
Missouri	Full Ban	10,000	5,030
Montana	Ban blocked	30	15
North Carolina	20 week ban	32,000	16,096
North Dakota	Ban blocked	900	452
Ohio	six week ban	45,000	22,635
Oklahoma	Full Ban	12,000	6,036
South Carolina	Ban blocked	6,000	3,018
South Dakota	Full Ban	100	50
Tennessee	Full Ban	31,000	15,593
Texas	Full Ban	95,000	47,785
Utah	18 week ban	8,000	4024
West Virginia	Ban passed	400	201
Wisconsin	Full Ban	15,000	7,545
Wyoming	Ban blocked	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>496,930</b>	<b>249,955</b>

Amazon's field and customer support employees make up the vast majority of the company's workforce. Unlike Amazon's corporate employees, managers, and senior leaders, who are mostly men, the field and customer support workforce is evenly split between men and women (50.3% women vs 49.7% men).<sup>3</sup> And whereas Black and LatinX workers are rare among leadership at Amazon, 32.9% of field and customer support employees were Black in 2021, and 27.2% were LatinX.<sup>4</sup> In terms of annual pay, the median compensated employee at Amazon in 2021 earned \$32,855, or just \$631 per week, which stands in stark contrast to CEO Andy Jassy's 2021 compensation of \$212 million.<sup>5</sup> These employees, disproportionately Black and Brown and underpaid, are precisely the people who will most feel the impact of abortion restrictions, and face the highest hurdles in receiving care.<sup>6</sup>

### **Travel Reimbursement**

In May 2022, Amazon announced to employees that it would pay up to \$4,000 in travel expenses annually for non-life threatening medical treatment, including abortion.<sup>7</sup> The benefit would go into effect retroactively to January 1st, 2022, and apply in circumstances where the patient lived more than 100 miles from an abortion provider. All employees enrolled in the Premera or Aetna health plans would qualify.

But questions remain over which workers will be covered by this policy and which will not. Amazon's distribution network relies on hundreds of thousands of drivers who, despite wearing Amazon uniforms and driving Amazon-branded vans, technically work for third-party Delivery Service Partners (DSPs). In the past, Amazon has also relied on temporary workers, who do not receive benefits when they begin working at Amazon. Additionally, app-based workers who deliver packages for Amazon through the Amazon Flex app are not covered by company benefits. Will Amazon commit to covering travel expenses for all these workers who make the company run, should they need abortion-care? The answer appears to be no, with Amazon spokesperson, Brad Glaser, saying as much in a statement.<sup>8</sup>

Amazon employees forced to travel out-of-state for abortion-care will not just be responsible for travel expenses, medical costs, and potential childcare, but will need to take time off of work as well. Along with representing a potential loss in wages, employees may not have time-off available to

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<sup>3</sup> ["Our Workforce Data."](#) Amazon. 2022. Accessed on August 29, 2022.

<sup>4</sup> ["Our Workforce Data."](#) Amazon. 2022. Accessed on August 29, 2022.

<sup>5</sup> ["Notice of 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders & Proxy Statement."](#) Amazon. 2022. Accessed on August 29, 2022.

<sup>6</sup> Alfonseca, Kiara. ["Why abortion restrictions disproportionately impact people of color."](#) ABC News. June 24, 2022. Accessed on August 29, 2022.

<sup>7</sup> Dastin, Jeffrey. ["Amazon to reimburse U.S. employees who travel for abortions, other treatments."](#) May 2, 2022. Reuters. Accessed on October 31, 2022.

<sup>8</sup> Harrington, Caitlin. ["Tech Companies Will Cover Abortion Travel—but Not for All Workers"](#) July 7, 2022. Wired. Accessed on October 31, 2022.

them when they need it and could be forced to decide between seeking medical care and keeping their job.

There are also privacy concerns over the implementation of this travel policy, and workers may be left wondering whether they need to inform Amazon itself that they are seeking abortion-care. If so, how will this information be safeguarded? These questions, and more, need to be clarified so that associates feel safe and secure in accessing benefits related to abortion-care.

## Political Giving

As Amazon signals its commitment to reimbursing employees for travel related to abortion care, it fails acknowledge its history of generous political contributions to anti-abortion Republican candidates and committees.

Amazon primarily contributes to political campaigns through its political action committee, Amazon.com Services LLC Separate Segregated Fund (Amazon PAC), though the company itself can contribute directly to some 527 non-profits, such as the Republican Governors Association. How Amazon decides what campaigns and committees to contribute to is largely shielded from shareholders and the general public, and this lack of transparency helps corporate decision-makers, such as Amazon CEO, Andy Jassy, avoid responsibility for political contributions.

Many of these corporate decisions contribute directly to Amazon PAC, often donating the maximum allowable \$5,000 each year. Since 2016, c-suite executives and board members have contributed over \$150,000 to Amazon PAC (see Table 2).

<b>Amazon Leadership</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Contributions to Amazon PAC since 2016</b>
Andy Jassy	Chief Executive Officer	\$30,000
Brian Olsavsky	Chief Financial Officer	\$25,245
Doug Herrington	CEO Worldwide Amazon Stores	\$29,161
David Zapolsky	Senior Counsel	\$30,832
Jeff Bezos	Chairman of the Board	\$30,000
Jamie Gorelick	Board Member	\$25,000

While Amazon has given to both sides of the political aisle, this analysis examines the money the company has poured into the anti-abortion movement. Since *Roe v. Wade*, in 1973, the anti-abortion

movement has pursued a decades-long strategy of restricting abortion as much as possible at the state level while fighting for a Supreme Court that would overturn the ruling entirely. Amazon has supported candidates and elected officials at nearly every level of this strategy, but this analysis will focus specifically on political contributions to the following:

- Republican Senate leadership, including the National Republican Senatorial Committee;
- The Republican Senators on the Judiciary Committee that voted to advance the nominations of Supreme Court Justices Kavanaugh, Gorsuch, and Coney-Barrett;
- Anti-abortion state governors and the Republican Governors Association;
- Anti-abortion attorneys generals and the Republican Attorneys General Association; and
- The Republican State Leadership Committee which funds and supports anti-abortion candidates in state legislatures across the country.

Since 2016, Amazon has given over \$1.5 million to the above elected officials and committees, putting the abortion rights of its employees, and all Americans, in jeopardy. This history of political contributions stands in stark contrast to the recent comments by the company, and throws Amazon's commitment to reproductive rights into question.

## Giving to Anti-Abortion Senators

The overturning of *Roe v. Wade* required a Supreme Court dominated by right-wing, anti-abortion Justices. While this might have seemed like a long shot just a few years ago, since 2016, Republican Senate leaders have engineered this court takeover by first refusing to advance the nomination of President Obama's Supreme Court pick, Merrick Garland, out of the Judiciary Committee, and then advancing President Trump's nominations of Justices Kavanaugh, Gorsuch, and Coney Barrett.

During this same period, Amazon contributed to the campaigns of nearly every Republican Senator in party leadership and on the Judiciary Committee. For the purposes of this report, party leadership refers to the top three ranking Republican Senators: Senate Leader Mitch McConnell, Senate Whip John Thune, and Senate Conference Chairman John Barasso, as well as the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC), a PAC which bills itself "the only national organization solely devoted to strengthening the Republican Senate Majority and electing Republicans to the US Senate."<sup>9</sup> In the past decade, the NRSC has spent hundreds of millions of dollars funding anti-abortion candidates and supporting a Republican-controlled Senate from 2014-2020.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> "[About Us.](#)" *National Republican Senatorial Committee*. 2022. Accessed on August 22, 2022.

<sup>10</sup> "[NRSC.](#)" *Federal Election Commission*. 2022. Accessed on August 22, 2022.

<b>Table 3. Political contributions since 2016 from Amazon to Republican Senate Leadership</b>	
<b>Committee and Candidates</b>	<b>Amazon PAC Contributions since 2016</b>
<b>National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC) and related committees</b>	\$75,000
<b>Committees linked to Republican Senate Leader Mitch McConnell</b>	\$1,000
<b>Committees linked to Republican Senate Whip John Thune</b>	\$10,000
<b>Committees linked to Republican Senate Conference Chairman John Barrasso</b>	\$10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$96,000</b>

In 2022 alone, Amazon has given \$30,000 to the NRSC, which the committee has funneled towards anti-abortion candidates in key senate races. In Georgia, for example, the NRSC announced \$8.5 million in joint-spending with Herschel Walker’s campaign. Walker has described abortions as a “woman killing her baby” and supports a national ban with no exceptions for rape, incest, or the mother’s health.<sup>11</sup>

Additionally, since 2016, Amazon PAC has contributed \$104,500 to Republicans that sit on the Senate Judiciary Committee. These Senators voted unanimously to advance the nominations of Supreme Court Justices Kavanaugh, Gorsuch, and Coney Barret.

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<sup>11</sup> [“Herschel Walker: anti-abortion Senate nominee denies media report he paid for abortion in 2009”](#). Associated Press. October 4, 2022. Accessed on October 31, 2022.

**Table 4. Political contributions since 2016 from Amazon to Republican members of the Senate Judiciary Committee**

<b>Anti-Abortion Senator on the Senate Judiciary Committee</b>	<b>Voted to nominate Kavanaugh</b>	<b>Voted to nominate Gorsuch</b>	<b>Voted to nominate Coney Barrett</b>	<b>Contributions from Amazon PAC since 2016</b>
Marsha Blackburn	NA	NA	Y	\$3,000
John Cornyn	Y	Y	Y	\$15,000
Mike Crapo	Y	Y	Y	\$5,000
Ted Cruz	Y	Y	Y	\$2,000
Joni Ernst	NA	NA	Y	\$15,000
Jeff Flake	Y	Y	NA	\$2,500
Lindsey Graham	Y	Y	Y	\$6,000
Chuck Grassley	Y	Y	Y	\$10,000
Orrin Hatch	Y	Y	NA	\$10,000
Josh Hawley	NA	NA	Y	\$0
John Neely Kennedy	Y	Y	Y	\$1,000
Mike Lee	Y	Y	Y	\$15,000
Ben Sasse	Y	Y	Y	\$10,000
Thom Tillis	Y	Y	Y	\$10,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 104,500</b>

## **Giving to Anti-Abortion Governors**

A governor's ability to sign or veto a bill can mean the difference between access to safe abortion care or a total abortion ban with no exceptions. At the state level, Republican Governors have embraced this power, leading the charge against abortion rights and signed increasingly repressive bans into law. Despite this, since 2016, Amazon has contributed \$817,868 to the Republican



Governors Association (RGA), one of the preeminent funders and supporters of anti-abortion governors across the country.<sup>12 13 14</sup>

<b>Table 5. Political contributions since 2016 from Amazon to the Republican Governors Association</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Contributions to the Republican Governors Association since 2016</b>
2017	\$25,900
2018	\$110,900
2019	\$85,168
2020	\$170,000
2021	\$175,900
2022	\$250,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$817,868</b>

In 2022 alone, Amazon has contributed \$250,000 to the RGA. In turn, this election cycle the RGA is spending heavily in key abortion battle grounds, including in Wisconsin where Tim Michels, the Republican candidate for Governor, has called the state’s 1849 Abortion Ban “an exact mirror of my position”, and in Michigan, where Republican Governor candidate, Tudor Dixon, has opposed abortion even in cases of rape and incest.<sup>15 16 17</sup>

Amazon has also given directly to governors in states where it has corporate offices, including Virginia and Tennessee. In 2018, Amazon announced it would be opening a secondary headquarters (HQ2) in Arlington Virginia. Perhaps because of this increased footprint in the state, in 2021 Amazon

<sup>12</sup> Forrest, Julia. [“DGA and RGA spend big ahead of 2021-2022 gubernatorial elections”](#). *Open Secrets*. August 4, 2021. Accessed on August 15, 2022.

<sup>13</sup> [“RGA Brings In Record-Breaking \\$156 Million In 2018 Cycle”](#). Press Release. Republican Governors Association. October 15, 2018. Accessed on August 15, 2022.

<sup>14</sup> Jordan, David. [“Republican Governors Association outguns its Democratic counterpart as it gears up for next races”](#). *The Center for Public Integrity*. February 23, 2017. Accessed on August 15, 2022.

<sup>15</sup> Beck, Molly. [“Tim Michels now says he would back legislation allowing abortions in case of rape and incest despite decades of opposition.”](#) *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. September 23, 2022. Accessed on October 31, 2022.

<sup>16</sup> Brodey, Sam. [“How GOP Governor Candidates Are ‘Blowing It’ in the Midwest.”](#) *The Daily Beast*. September 23, 2022. Accessed on October 31, 2022.

<sup>17</sup> Pietsch, Bryan. [“Top GOP governor candidate: Mich. abortion ban should cover rape, incest.”](#) *The Washington Post*. July 21, 2022. Accessed on October 31, 2022.

gave \$125,000 to the campaign of Virginia candidate for governor, Glenn Youngkin. Youngkin won the election and put the Virginia governorship back in Republican control for the first time since 2014. But while painting himself as a moderate, Youngkin holds extreme views regarding abortion. On top of reports that Youngkin has used views on abortion as a litmus test for appointees, on the very same day that the *Dobbs* ruling was issued, the Governor’s office announced that Virginia would pursue a 15-week abortion ban.<sup>18</sup> <sup>19</sup> Earlier that week, Youngkin had also reportedly told an anti-abortion group that he believes that life begins at conception and that he would “happily and gleefully” sign any anti-abortion bill that crosses his desk.<sup>20</sup> Thus, in the home state of Amazon’s HQ2, the abortion rights of 30,000 Amazon employees, along with 8 million other Virginians, are up in the air.

Along with its corporate expansion to Virginia, in 2018 Amazon announced it would open a new office in Nashville, Tennessee. Since then, the company has given generously to Tennessee’s anti-abortion governor. From 2019 to 2021, Amazon PAC contributed \$25,400 to Tennessee Governor Bill Lee. In the middle of that period, in 2020, Governor Lee signed a six week abortion ban.<sup>21</sup> But even 6 weeks was too lenient for Lee and Tennessee Republicans, and as of August 25, 2022 a complete ban on abortion has gone into effect, with no exceptions for the rape or incest.<sup>22</sup>

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amazon Contributions to Governor Lee (TN)</b>	<b>Abortion rights in Tennessee</b>
2019	\$10,000 donation	Lee signs trigger ban
2020	\$10,000 donation	Lee signs 6-week abortion ban
2021	\$5,400 donation	Appeals court blocks Lee’s 6-week abortion ban <sup>23</sup>
2022	\$0	Lee’s trigger ban goes into effect

<sup>18</sup> Schneider, Gregory and Vozzella, Laura. “[The two sides of Youngkin: Virginia’s new governor calls for unity but keeps stoking volatile issues.](#)” *The Washington Post*. February 13, 2022. Accessed on September 7, 2022.

<sup>19</sup> Ward, Myah. “[Youngkin will pursue 15-week abortion ban in Virginia.](#)” *Politico*. June 24, 2022. Accessed on September 7, 2022.

<sup>20</sup> DeFusco, Jackie. “[Gov. Glenn Youngkin dodges questions on abortion ban at conception.](#)” WRIC ABC 8 News. June 30, 2022. Accessed on September 7, 2022.

<sup>21</sup> Swetlitz, Ike, & Soper, Spencer. “[Amazon, Disney, AT&T Gave to Abortion Foes Like DeSantis While Vowing to Help Employees.](#)” *Bloomberg*. June 30, 2022. Accessed on October 31, 2022.

<sup>22</sup> Kim, Juliana. “[3 more states are poised to enact abortion trigger bans this week.](#)” *NPR*. August 22, 2022. Accessed on September 8, 2022.

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/appeals-court-blocks-strict-tennessee-abortion-law-2021-09-10/>

## Giving to Anti-Abortion Attorneys General

Along with giving money to Republican Governors, Amazon contributed to the Republican Attorneys General Association (RAGA) in 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. RAGA is a key player in the anti-abortion movement, funding and supporting Republican Attorneys General who have been essential to the implementation of abortion bans and the use of anti-abortion legal strategies. In fact, a fundraising email from RAGA sent the very day that *Roe* was overturned said: "Every donation will help the Republican Attorneys General combat the Democrats' pro-abortion agenda and stand tall for life."<sup>24</sup>

RAGA's website highlights a host of anti-abortion attorneys general, including:

- Mississippi AG Lynn Fitch, who helped design the anti-abortion legal strategy in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, and was nicknamed "The woman who helped to end *Roe v. Wade*" by the BBC;<sup>25</sup>
- Arizona AG Mark Brnovich recently asked a court to lift an injunction on a 1901 state law that bans abortion in nearly every instance unless the pregnant person's life is at risk;<sup>26</sup>
- RAGA Chairman and South Carolina AG Alan Wilson, who thanked the Supreme Court for overturning *Roe* and is defending in court a 6-week abortion ban;<sup>27</sup>
- And Ohio AG, Dave Yost, who cast doubt on reports that a ten-year-old Ohio girl, a victim of rape, had been forced to travel to Indiana for an abortion.<sup>28</sup> Shortly after saying that there was "not a whisper" of evidence to corroborate the story, Yost reversed himself when he announced that a suspect had been arrested and confessed to the crime.

RAGA also spends heavily to replace pro-choice Democrats in states where abortion rights are under threat. In Wisconsin, RAGA is spending against Democratic Attorney General, Josh Kaul, who is trying to block the implementation of an 1849 abortion ban.<sup>29</sup> <sup>30</sup> RAGA's involvement in this race could determine the abortion rights of nearly 5.9 million Wisconsin residents, and 15,000 Amazon associates.

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<sup>24</sup> Legum, Judd. "[The hypocrisy of abortion as a corporate perk.](#)" *Popular Information*. June 27, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

<sup>25</sup> Honderich, Holly. "[US Supreme Court: The woman who helped to end \*Roe v Wade\*.](#)" *BBC*. June 21, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

<sup>26</sup> Christie, Bob. "[Arizona attorney general asks court to unblock abortion ban.](#)" *ABC News*. July 13, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

<sup>27</sup> "[Attorney General Alan Wilson statement on Supreme Court's ruling in \*Dobbs\* abortion case.](#)" *South Carolina Attorney General*. June 24, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

<sup>28</sup> Goffinet, Jared. "['Not a whisper' of evidence to show 10-year-old Ohio rape victim got abortion in Indiana: AG Yost tells FOX News.](#)" *Fox 19*. July 12, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

<sup>29</sup> Schwartz, Brian. "[Republican attorneys general to host private retreat for corporate donors at swanky Palm Beach resort.](#)" *CNBC*. July 14, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

<sup>30</sup> "[GOP Electioneering Group Plans to spend \\$700K in Wisconsin AG Race.](#)" *Wisconsin Democracy Campaign*. May 5, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

Table 7. Amazon's contributions to the Republican Attorneys General Association (2016-2022)	
Year	Contributions to the Republican Attorneys General Association since 2016
2017	\$12,500
2018	\$50,000
2019	\$50,000
2020	\$100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$212,500</b>

## Giving to Anti-Abortion State Legislators

For years, Republican state legislatures have tested the limits of *Roe v. Wade* by passing increasingly restrictive anti-abortion bills. Behind many of these legislatures has been the Republican State Leadership Committee (RSLC), an influential group that has funded and supported much of the Republican party's recent down-ballot success. In 2018, for example, the RSLC spent \$1.2 million in Georgia's state elections.<sup>31</sup> The following year, the Republican legislature passed a trigger ban that would go into effect upon *Roe's* reversal.<sup>32 33</sup> Similar anti-abortion bills advanced in Alabama and Missouri after the RSLC's spent heavily in those states' 2018 elections as well.<sup>34</sup> Now, post-*Roe*, the RSLC is spending in North Carolina's 2022 state elections, where Republicans are hoping to gain enough seats to pass a veto-proof abortion ban.<sup>35 36</sup>

Despite this well-documented history of supporting and funding state candidates dead set on stripping Americans of their abortion-rights, Amazon has contributed generously to the RSLC since 2016, with donations totaling \$212,500. In fact on June 24, 2022, the very day that the *Dobbs* decision was announced, Amazon made two contributions totalling \$25,000 to the RSLC.

<sup>31</sup> Bogun, Ally. "[The Corporations Funding the Group Behind the Country's Most Extreme Anti-Choice Lawmakers.](#)" *Rewire News Group*. July 10, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

<sup>32</sup> Bogun, Ally. "[The Corporations Funding the Group Behind the Country's Most Extreme Anti-Choice Lawmakers.](#)" *Rewire News Group*. July 10, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

<sup>33</sup> Fowler, Stephen. "[What does Georgia's 2019 abortion law HB 481 do?](#)" *GPB News*. June 30, 2022. Accessed August 8, 2022.

<sup>34</sup> Bogun, Ally. "[The Corporations Funding the Group Behind the Country's Most Extreme Anti-Choice Lawmakers.](#)" *Rewire News Group*. July 10, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

<sup>35</sup> "[RSLC Announces State Legislative Targets for 2022.](#)" *Republican State Leadership Committee*. March 10, 2022. Accessed on August 23, 2022.

<sup>36</sup> Schoenbaum, Hannah. "[Judge Reinstates North Carolina's 20-Week Abortion Ban.](#)" *Bloomberg*. August 17, 2022. Accessed on August 23, 2022.

Table 8. Amazon's contributions to the Republican State Leadership Committee (2016-2022)	
Year	Contributions to the Republican State Leadership Committee since 2016
2017	\$50,000
2018	\$15,000
2019	\$51,681
2020	\$60,000
2022	\$25,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$201,681</b>

### Conclusion

As the second largest private employer in the country, and a provider of healthcare benefits to hundreds of thousands of workers and their families, Amazon plays an outsized role in preserving, or undermining, abortion rights. Now, in a post-Roe America, that outsized role comes with even more responsibility. But while the company has taken steps to assist associates with travel costs for out-of-state abortion-care, its political arm has long funded politicians and committees working to end abortion access for all Americans. As an industry leader, Amazon has the opportunity to set a new corporate standard for supporting the reproductive rights of its employees, by taking just a few steps:

- Ensure that all employees in states where abortion has been banned or severely restricted are able to travel out-of-state to receive care. Along with the previously announced travel reimbursement, this benefit should include sufficient paid-time-off for the duration of travel and reimbursement for necessary child care during that period.
- Ensure that the above benefits apply to all people who work for Amazon, whether full or part time, seasonal or permanent; and that those benefits are extended to app-based workers, independent contractors, and all workers who make the company run.
- Withhold all political giving to anti-abortion candidates and political committees and organizations.
- Publicly disclose a detailed accounting of all political contributions, both by the company and any affiliated political action committees, to all candidates, elected officials, PACs, political organizations, 501(c)(4) social welfare organizations, and 501(c)(6) trade associations.

Along with protecting the health and reproductive freedoms of its employees, these actions would bring Amazon in line with the American public, which across gender, age, and race/ethnicity, believes that abortion should be legal in all or most cases.<sup>37</sup> As a ubiquitous presence in American communities, Amazon should not be using its power to strip away fundamental rights. By following the above recommendations, Amazon has the chance to be a corporate leader on the issue of reproductive rights while protecting the health and safety of the employees and workers that make the company successful.

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<sup>37</sup> [“Public Opinion on Abortion.”](#) Pew Research Center. May 17, 2022. Accessed on August 8, 2022.

## Table Methodology

- Table 1. Status of abortion rights is based on a nationwide analysis by the New York Times, titled [Tracking the States Where Abortion is Now Banned](#), as of October 31st, 2022. The number of people who work in retail by state is based on the June 2022 figures from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.
- Table 2. Contributions are based on a search of FEC individual contribution data from January 1st, 2016 to July 1st, 2022.
- Table 3. Political contributions are based on a search of FEC disbursement data from January 1st, 2016 to July 25th, 2022 for Amazon.com Services LLC Separate Segregated Fund (Amazon PAC). Contributions reported may include multiple committees linked to a single candidate.
- Table 4. Political contributions are based on a search of FEC disbursement data from January 1st, 2016 to July 25th, 2022 for Amazon.com Services LLC Separate Segregated Fund (Amazon PAC). Contributions reported may include multiple committees linked to a single candidate.
- Table 5. Figures are based on the 8872 Forms filed by the Republican Governors Association from 2016 through the first half of 2022. Publicly available through the Internal Revenue Service. Form 8872 is filed by tax-exempt 527 political organizations.
- Table 6. Figures are based on a search of FollowtheMoney.org records for candidate contributions from the top ten retailers or their associated PACs from 2016 to 2022.
- Table 7. Figures are based on the 8872 Forms filed by the Republican Attorneys General Association from 2016 through the first half of 2022. Publicly available through the Internal Revenue Service. Form 8872 is filed by tax-exempt 527 political organizations.
- Table 8. Figures are based on the 8872 Forms filed by the Republican State Leadership Committee from 2016 through the first half of 2022. Publicly available through the Internal Revenue Service. Form 8872 is filed by tax-exempt 527 political organizations.