



## **Safeguarding Reproductive Health Privacy After the Elimination of Federal Protections: Considerations for States Enacting Shield Laws**

Under the Biden Administration, the federal government sought to protect reproductive health privacy by issuing a new rule under HIPAA with additional protections, but this rule was eliminated by a federal court in 2025. This issue brief aims to support policymakers and others considering enactment of state-level protections to safeguard reproductive privacy in response to the elimination of these federal protections. [Read the full brief.](#)

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**Law & Policy Insights**



## Climate Superfund Laws: Holding Fossil Fuel Companies Financially Accountable for the Costs of Climate Change

States burdened with the costs of mitigating and responding to the effects of climate change have looked to a decades old federal law as a model for allocating those costs to the industries that emit the greenhouse gases that fuel climate change. The laws, called Climate Superfund Laws, or Make Polluters Pay, are being considered across the county.

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## Resources



### Law and Policy Pathways: Community Adaptation to Climate Change

Community adaptation to climate change involves law and policy efforts in several areas, including housing and the built environment; clean energy; green transportation; emergency preparedness and response; and the natural environment. This resource outlines law and policy pathways to addressing the impacts of climate change and creating climate resilient communities.

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## Webinar



### Beyond Borders: Global Legal Innovations for Countering "Parental Rights" and "Prenatal Personhood" in the U.S. Abortion Context

TODAY February 19, 2026 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CT

Join us for a webinar examining the uptick in efforts to curtail young people's autonomy in abortion decision-making in the United States through legal strategies grounded in "parental rights" and "prenatal personhood;" and how advocates and decision-makers in other countries have successfully relied on innovative arguments to push back against similar attacks.

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## Announcements

### A Revised SDOH Framework: Implementing Health Justice Principles to Address Structural Discrimination

February 23, 2026 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. CT

Effectively addressing health inequities requires more than just acknowledging the role of the Social

Determinants of Health SDOH. Join the Network's Equity Officer Peer Group (EOPG) for a presentation by Ruqaiyah Yearby, J.D., M.P.H., Professor and Judge Clifford Scott Green Chair at Temple University, Beasley School of Law, who will discuss her revised SDOH framework, which identifies structural discrimination as a root cause of worse health outcomes for underprivileged groups. She will also outline how governments can address structural discrimination through Health Justice principles. If you currently work in a state, Tribal, local, or territorial government working to promote equity, you can request to join the Equity Officer Peer Group and receive a registration link, [here](#).

## **A Breach or Not a Breach: Complying with the HIPAA Breach Notification Rule in the Public Health Setting**

**March 11, 2026 | 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. CT**

Responding to a potential breach of protected health information (PHI) is one of the most critical and time-sensitive responsibilities faced by privacy officers. Join this Network Privacy Officer Peer Group Peer to hear from presenters who will outline the requirements of the HIPAA Breach Notification Rule and discuss both the legal obligations and practicalities of investigating a potential breach event involving PHI, including conducting interviews, mitigating harm, conducting breach risk assessments, making breach determinations, and providing necessary notifications. If you currently work in a privacy role within a state, local, Tribal, or territorial health department, or another governmental health authority, you can request to join the Privacy Officer Peer Group and receive a registration link, [here](#).

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## **Worth Sharing**

### **NACCHO 360 Early Bird Registration**

Registration is open for the NACCHO 360 Annual Meeting to be held July 14-17 in Louisville, Kentucky and virtually. This year's theme, "Racing Forward, Swinging Big: United for Public Health's Future," calls on the public health community to stay focused, swing with purpose, and race toward a future built on innovation, resilience, and access for all. **Early bird registration is available through March 31, 2026** and NACCHO is offering the option to register now, and pay later.

## **Tell Us What You're Working On.**

## **We're Ready to Help.**

**Network attorneys can provide consultation and guidance to:**

- Identify the ways in which laws and policies may or may not impact a particular

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project or community; or the potential impact on different populations within a community.

- Provide examples of and compare public health laws or policy strategies from other jurisdictions.
- Analyze the legal authority to implement a policy or law, or reforms.
- Apply equity tools to laws and policies.

## Thank you!

Your interest in the work of the Network is important. Together, we can advance law as a tool to improve public health. **Please forward the Network Report and encourage others to [join the Network!](#)**

*The Network for Public Health Law provides information and technical assistance on issues related to public health. The legal information and assistance provided in this document does not constitute legal advice or legal representation. For legal advice, readers should consult a lawyer in their state.*



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