

**FAIRPLAY AI**  
POLICY ANALYSIS

# Protect Reproductive Health

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# United Nations Goal 5 Targets:

5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.

5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.

5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

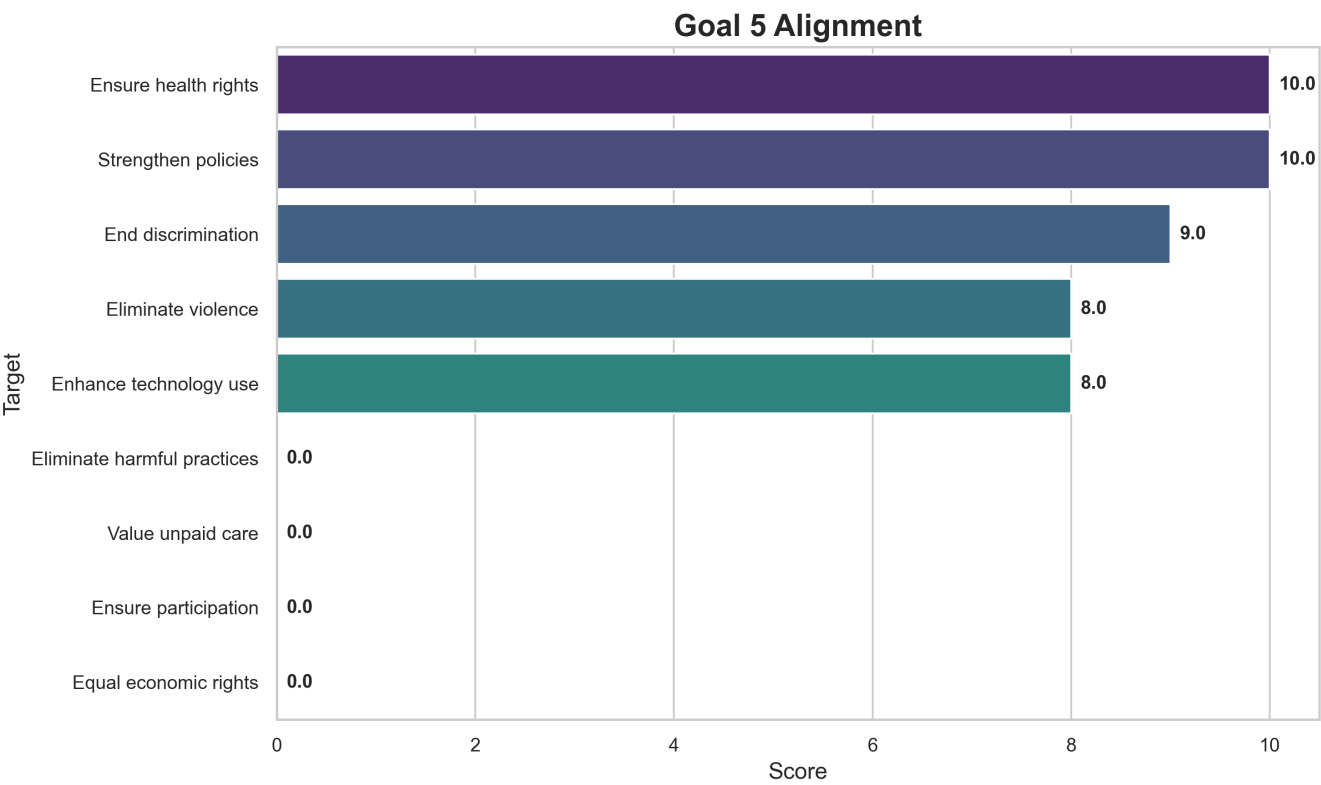
5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences.

5.A Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.

5.B Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.

5.C Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.

# Goal 5 Alignment Chart



# Policy Summary

**Focus Area:** Women and girl's healthcare

**Brief Overview:** This policy aims to codify Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey protections, ensure access to abortion and contraception in other states, criminalize interference with abortion access, create a private right of action against individuals interfering with abortion access, prohibit tracking of emergency contraception purchases, ensure freedom to transport individuals seeking abortions, and prohibit geofencing near abortion providers.

# Target Goal Alignment

Overall Score: 85/100

## Target: 5.1 - End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

Score	9
Analysis	This policy directly addresses discrimination against women by ensuring their right to bodily autonomy and access to reproductive healthcare, which is often denied due to discriminatory practices.

## Target: 5.2 - Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

Score	8
Analysis	The policy aims to reduce violence against women seeking abortions by criminalizing interference with access to abortion services and establishing a private right of action for victims.

## Target: 5.3 - Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

Score	0
Analysis	Not applicable to this policy.

## Target: 5.4 - Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

Score	0
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Analysis	Not applicable to this policy.
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**Target: 5.5 - Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life**

Score	0
Analysis	Not applicable to this policy.

**Target: 5.6 - Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences**

Score	10
Analysis	This policy explicitly aims to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights by protecting the right to abortion and contraception.

**Target: 5.A - Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.**

Score	0
Analysis	Not applicable to this policy.

**Target: 5.B - Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.**

Score	8
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Analysis	The policy addresses technology-based harm by prohibiting geofencing around abortion providers, which can be used to track and harass individuals seeking reproductive healthcare.
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**Target: 5.C - Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.**

Score	10
Analysis	This policy explicitly aims to strengthen legal protections for women's reproductive rights and ensure equality in access to healthcare services.



# Bias Analysis

## Explicit Biases

Description	The policy explicitly recognizes and protects women's right to access abortion services, addressing the historical and ongoing bias against women's reproductive rights.
Potential Impact	This explicit stance against bias helps to ensure that women are not denied access to essential healthcare services due to discriminatory beliefs.
Recommendation	Continued vigilance is needed to ensure that this policy is enforced effectively and not undermined by other legislation or practices.

## Implicit Biases

Description	Implicit bias may still exist within the legal and medical systems, potentially leading to unequal treatment of women seeking abortions, even with this policy in place.
Potential Impact	This could manifest in subtle forms of discrimination, such as longer wait times, difficulty accessing information, or judgment from healthcare providers.
Recommendation	Implement training programs for legal and medical professionals to address implicit bias and promote a more equitable approach to reproductive healthcare.

Description	The policy may unintentionally perpetuate the assumption that women are the only individuals involved in decisions about pregnancy and abortion.
Potential Impact	This could exclude men and other individuals who may be directly impacted by abortion decisions, potentially leading to a narrow understanding of the complex social and personal factors surrounding abortion.
Recommendation	The policy should be reviewed to ensure that it accounts for the diverse perspectives and experiences of all individuals involved in reproductive healthcare, including men and transgender individuals.

# Cost Effectiveness Analysis

Overall Rating	High
Explanation	The policy's focus on protecting reproductive rights can lead to significant long-term economic benefits for women and society. Reducing unintended pregnancies can increase women's educational attainment, career opportunities, and overall economic well-being. Furthermore, criminalizing interference with abortion access and providing legal recourse for victims can reduce healthcare costs associated with violence against women and support their access to safe and affordable care.
Key Factors	Reduced healthcare costs associated with unintended pregnancies and unsafe abortions Increased economic empowerment of women through access to education and employment Lower costs associated with legal interventions and criminal justice system involvement in cases of harassment and violence related to abortion access

# Improvement Recommendations

## Area of Improvement: Addressing the needs of marginalized communities

Current State	The policy focuses on protecting reproductive rights in general, but does not explicitly address the specific challenges faced by marginalized communities, such as women of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and low-income individuals.
Proposed Change	Include provisions that address systemic barriers to access to reproductive healthcare for marginalized communities, such as transportation assistance, language interpretation services, and financial aid programs.
Expected Impact	This would ensure that the policy benefits all women, regardless of their background or circumstances, and contribute to closing the health equity gap.
Implementation Challenges	Identifying and addressing the specific needs of diverse communities may require extensive research and consultation with community leaders and organizations.
Priority Level	High

## Area of Improvement: Strengthening enforcement mechanisms

Current State	While the policy criminalizes interference with abortion access and creates a private right of action, it does not specify clear enforcement mechanisms.
Proposed Change	Establish dedicated task forces or units within law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute violations of the policy and provide clear guidelines for reporting and responding to incidents of harassment or violence.
Expected Impact	This would ensure that the policy is effectively enforced and provides a deterrent against individuals who seek to interfere with women's access to abortion services.
Implementation Challenges	Adequate funding and training resources may be needed to effectively implement and support the enforcement mechanisms.
Priority Level	Medium

## Area of Improvement: Expanding access to affordable contraception

Current State	The policy primarily focuses on protecting abortion rights, but access to affordable contraception can significantly reduce the need for abortion.
Proposed Change	Include provisions that expand access to affordable and effective contraception, such as removing financial barriers and increasing access to family planning services.
Expected Impact	This would contribute to a more comprehensive approach to reproductive healthcare and empower women to control their reproductive choices.
Implementation Challenges	Funding and access to qualified healthcare professionals may be needed to ensure widespread availability of affordable contraception.
Priority Level	Medium

# Overall Assessment

Strengths	Strong legal protections for women's right to abortion and contraception Explicit recognition of the importance of protecting women's bodily autonomy Focus on addressing violence and harassment against women seeking abortions
Weaknesses	Limited focus on the needs of marginalized communities Potential for implicit bias to persist within existing systems Lack of specific enforcement mechanisms for some policy provisions
Opportunities	Expanding the policy to include provisions that address broader reproductive healthcare needs, such as access to affordable contraception and comprehensive family planning services Engaging with diverse communities to ensure the policy is equitable and effective for all women
Threats	Potential for the policy to be undermined by other legislation or legal challenges Limited resources or political will to effectively implement the policy's provisions

# Conclusion

## Summary:

This policy represents a significant step forward in protecting women's reproductive rights in North Carolina. It codifies existing legal protections and takes crucial steps to ensure access to abortion and contraception, while also addressing violence and harassment against women seeking reproductive healthcare.

## Key Takeaways:

- The policy demonstrates a commitment to gender equality by addressing discriminatory practices that limit women's access to essential healthcare services.
- It is essential to address implicit biases and ensure that the policy benefits all women, regardless of their background or circumstances.
- Effective implementation and enforcement are crucial to ensure that the policy's intended impact is achieved.

## Recommendations:

This policy should be viewed as a foundation for a more comprehensive approach to reproductive healthcare in North Carolina. Continued efforts are needed to address the policy's weaknesses, expand its scope, and ensure equitable access to reproductive healthcare for all women.