

For Immediate Release

DATE: Saturday, January 22, 2022

**STATE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE PARK CANNON AND COLLEAGUES CALL FOR
COMMITMENT TO UPHOLD REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM FOLLOWING
49TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE**

STATE CAPITOL - On Tuesday, January 25th at 1:00pm, State Representative Park Cannon (HD58 - Atlanta), alongside a number of House colleagues, will announce a House resolution calling for the Georgia State Legislature and Governor Brian Kemp to protect the reproductive freedom of Georgians rather than limit it, a move in response to recent studies highlighting the exacerbated impact of restrictive abortion policies on Black and brown, rural, and LGBTQ+ communities, young people, people with disabilities, and people struggling to make ends meet.

Despite Saturday, January 22nd marking the 49th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, *Roe* might not make it to its 50th birthday given the national context and extreme barriers to abortion codified into state law in the last decade. Georgia passed at least 13 abortion restrictions between 2005 and 2019, including the near-total abortion ban (HB 481), a 24-hour waiting period, a parental notification requirement, and a ban forbidding state health plans from covering abortion care.

According to [one research study out of Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health](#), restrictive abortion policies 1) severely reduce access to abortion in terms of availability of providers in close proximity, ability to make an appointment, and cost; 2) increase the risk of adverse outcomes, including maternal mortality; and 3) disproportionately affect Black people and people in lower income status.

“Creating a just and equitable world means ending restrictions on abortion care, particularly when the harm falls hardest on those who already face significant barriers to care,” says Rep. Cannon. “Our job as lawmakers is to make the future bigger and better than the status quo. This resolution demonstrates a vision of a Georgia where the shape, timing, size, and makeup of our families is up to each of us.”

**To join the virtual press conference on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 1:00pm,
register at tinyurl.com/RoePresser.**

Notes for Editors:

1. Lawmakers, researchers, and abortion advocates virtually gathered on Saturday, January 22, 2022 – the 49th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* – for a roundtable discussion on the latest abortion access research in Georgia and the greater Southeast.
2. Co-sponsoring House Representatives include: Shea Roberts, Rebecca Mitchell, Renitta Shannon, Jasmine Clark, Sandra Scott, Matthew Wilson, Dar'shun Kendrick, Teri Anulewicz, Kim Schofield, Donna McLeod, and Rhonda Burnough

For a media kit including links to all referenced research, go to tinyurl.com/RoeGAPressKit. For more information, please contact Grace Akan at 678-522-7552 or grace@graceandgritlab.com.