

The Potential Impact of State Abortion Laws on Reproductive Health Apps



Millions of women use reproductive health applications (or “apps”) to track menstrual cycles, ovulation, and pregnancy. These apps provide women that use the rhythm method for birth control and women seeking to become pregnant access to more accurate information about their reproductive systems. To accurately track a user’s reproductive cycles, many health apps need the users to share highly sensitive and personal health data. This sensitive data is generally stored and may include dates of ovulation, conception, pregnancy start, and pregnancy end, if applicable. Needless to say, reproductive health app developers manage and maintain a data platform that contains some of the most sensitive and private information about their customers.

The highly sensitive and private customer information contained in reproductive health apps has been thrust to the forefront of the evolving landscape of abortion laws in the United States. The U.S. Supreme Court (“SCOTUS”) [decision](#) to overturn [Roe v. Wade](#) authorizes states to limit, restrict, and criminalize abortion. [As many as half of all U.S. states have some form of an abortion ban in effect, or one that is expected to take effect in the near future](#), due to the SCOTUS decision. These abortion ban laws are frequently referred to as “trigger laws.” State laws that criminalize abortion could have an immediate impact on how reproductive health apps implement and enforce personal health data security measures (*i.e.*, privacy policies and procedures).

Read the alert [here](#).

Taking Security Interests In Human Reproductive Tissue: Clarifying Lender Options Under Federal And State Law



Can human reproductive tissue (“HRT”) held by a fertility clinic serve as collateral for a loan to (or investment in) the fertility clinic? In short, the scope and extent of governmental regulation addressing the sale of or transfer of ownership interests in HRT held by a fertility clinic varies from state to state; however, most state laws would likely prohibit the sale of HRT except in very specified cases. As an extension of this concept, most state laws would also prohibit taking a security interest in the HRT, as would ethical and religious-based concerns triggered by the concept of third-party ownership interests in another person’s HRT. Read the alert [here](#).

FemTech - A Market on the Rise



2021 was a banner year for the women’s health and wellness industry as global venture capital investment in FemTech companies surpassed \$1B for the first time. This was attributable to a number of high value deals in the sector, including Elvie’s \$97M Series C fundraising and Maven’s \$110M Series D fundraising, which resulted in Maven becoming the first FemTech unicorn.

This trend towards increasingly high profile deals is continuing into 2022, as Kindbody’s acquisition of Vios Fertility Institute in January brought the company’s valuation to \$1.15B, making it the second FemTech company to [***reach unicorn status in less than a year***](#). As current projections indicate that the global FemTech market is estimated to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 12.2%, this article considers some of the key areas for advancement in the sector, as well as [***possible challenges to that progress***](#).

Read the [**full article**](#), originally published in *Maddyness*, by Life Sciences partner [**Sophie McGrath**](#) and associate [**Kesten Lavery**](#).