



**Job Title:** State Legislative Counsel

**Department:** U.S. Policy & Advocacy

**Center Background:** The Center for Reproductive Rights (the Center) is the premier global legal organization dedicated to advancing women's reproductive health, self-determination, and dignity. Its mission is straightforward and ambitious: to advance reproductive health and rights as fundamental human rights that all governments around the world are legally obligated to protect, respect, and fulfill. Headquartered in New York City, the Center has regional offices in Bogota, Geneva, Kathmandu, Nairobi, and Washington, DC and a staff of more than 130 diverse professionals. Its annual operating budget is approximately \$23 million, the result of an extraordinary growth trajectory; the Center is now poised for a new phase of significant expansion through its next Strategic Plan.

The Center's game-changing litigation and advocacy work, combined with its unparalleled expertise in constitutional, comparative, and international human rights law, have transformed how reproductive rights are understood by courts, governments, and human rights bodies worldwide. It has played a key role in securing landmark legal victories in the U.S., Latin America, Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe on issues including access to life-saving obstetrics care, contraception, safe abortion services, and comprehensive sexuality information, as well as the prevention of forced sterilization and child marriage. It has brought groundbreaking cases before national courts, U.N. Committees, and regional human rights bodies, led the development of historic, proactive legislation advancing robust protections for reproductive rights, and has built the legal capacity of women's rights advocates in more than 55 countries.

To learn more about the Center for Reproductive Rights, go to [www.reproductiverights.org](http://www.reproductiverights.org).

The **State Legislative Counsel** will report to the Senior State Policy and Advocacy Counsel and will be responsible for oversight, development, and implementation of the Center's legislative strategies to strengthen protections for and expand access to reproductive health care in the states.

This position will be based in New York City.

**Responsibilities:**

Primary job responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Providing timely technical assistance to local advocates on selected state legislative issues, including bill drafting, strategy, analysis, and related advocacy tools
- Providing timely information to USLP to assist preparation for litigation;
- Assisting in the development and implementation of defensive advocacy initiatives to further the Center's strategic priorities;
- Assisting in facilitating the annual State Summit;
- Regularly reviewing and providing input on Communications and Development materials (including grant proposals) relating to reproductive health and rights activity in state legislatures;

- Preparing legal analyses of state legislative proposals affecting women's reproductive rights;
- Analyzing emerging state legislative trends affecting women's reproductive rights;
- Speaking and writing about reproductive rights, including in response to press requests;
- Representing the Center at national conferences, coalitions and with clients and other allied organizations;
- Developing and implementing legislative strategies with national coalition partners to block anti-choice bills, as well as defensive strategies to promote legislation to support women's reproductive rights and health;
- Preparing advocacy materials, such as summaries of legislative activity across the country, talking points, briefing papers, etc.;
- Every two years, analyzing and providing information relating to state level elections to USLP, Management and Board; and
- Directing and supervising the work of the legislative fellowship attorney and assist in the supervision of other staff and interns.

**Essential Qualifications:**

- J.D. plus admission to a bar;
- A minimum of three years of legal advocacy experience required; legislative experience a strong plus;
- Excellent legal research, analytical, writing and communications skills;
- Knowledge of reproductive rights issues or issues relating to women's equality, human rights, civil rights, or racial and social justice issues required;
- Strong collaborative skills and ability to work on collaborative advocacy efforts required; and
- Demonstrated ability to work with local advocates preferred.

**Compensation:** The Center offers a competitive salary commensurate with experience and a comprehensive benefits program.

**How to Apply:** Please click on the link below to apply. A cover letter, resume, writing sample, and contact information for three references must be included in your application in order to be considered for this role. It is encouraged to include these application materials as attachments.

<https://reproductiverights.applicantpro.com/jobs/585439-29628.html>

**Deadline for applications:** Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

*The Center for Reproductive Rights is an equal opportunity employer, committed to inclusive hiring, and dedicated to diversity in our work and staff. We strongly encourage people from all groups and communities to apply.*

[www.reproductiverights.org](http://www.reproductiverights.org)