

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA, NORTHERN DIVISION

YELLOWHAMMER FUND, on  
behalf of itself and its clients,

Plaintiff,

(A#E NO. )\*)+,cv,-- ./- ,MH

v.

A ORNEY !ENERAL OF  
ALA "AMA # E\$E MAR#HALL,  
in his official ca%acit& ,

Defendant.

WE# ALA "AMA WOMEN0#  
(EN ER, on behalf of the 1 selves  
and thei2 staff3 et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

# E\$E MAR#HALL, in his official  
ca%acit& as Alaba 1 a Atto2ne&  
!ene2al,

Defendant.

YELLOWHAMMER FUND'S RESPONSE IN OPPOSITION TO  
DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS

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Other Author t es

Petition fo2 W2it of ( e2tio2a2i, 6 obbs v. )ackson Wo \*en+s Health 7r, ..

5.5 #. ( t. )95< ANo. 5@,9-@9@' .....5-

State Sovereignty , " lacE0s La6 Dictiona2& A5-th ed. ) -5. ' ..... )5

Rules

Ala. R. A%%. P. 5@Aa' ..... ) .

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## INTRODUCTION

As a constitutional matter, Alabama's Abortion Ban cannot apply to abortions that occur outside of Alabama. It is well settled that the state lacks constitutional authority to prevent pregnant Alabama residents from traveling outside its borders to obtain lawful abortion care in other jurisdictions.<sup>5</sup> Nevertheless, Defendant Steve Marshall claims that Alabama may impose civil liability on its residents for consorting to help people leave the state to engage in conduct that the state cannot validly prohibit. This is plainly incorrect. Plaintiff Yellock has a federal claim entitled to relief from Defendant's threats to prosecute its agents and other abortion health

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%e2sec7ted, the& send a 1 essa8e of solida2it&. Id. o the o%%2esso2s, hel%e2s send a  
1 essa8e of %2otest and defiance. Id.



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Plaintiff has alleged sufficient facts to establish standing. See, e.g., Doc. 5 at II 9/N  
9<. GJA'n organization has standing to sue on its own behalf if the defendant's illegal  
acts in fact impair its ability to enforce in its interests both the organization to divert  
resources to counteract those illegal acts. H 41a. State Conf. of "A.A.C.2. v.  
(ro#nin, , /)) F.+d 55/+, 559/ A55th (i2. )--@'. Allegations that Plaintiff has  
suffered in fact to its mission of diverted resources to combat the challenged conduct  
are sufficient to show organizational injury. 616744(.)B31 0 TdR [ ( )-178. 166 (534(1)-4.5



ARoberts, ( .B., conc722in8'. o establish thi2d,%a2t& standin8, a %laintiff 1 7st sho 6  
that A5' it has s7ffe2ed an in:72&,in,fact itself3 A)' it has a s7fficientl& close  
2relationshi% 6 ith the thi2d %a2t&3 and A+' the thi2d %a2t& faces a hind2ance to asse2tin8  
its o 6n 2i8hts. Ko#alski v. /es \*er, / .+ U.#. 5)/, 5)<N+- A) -- .'. As e=%lained  
above, Plaintiff has established an in:72&,in,fact. See s7%2a at ;N<.

Plaintiff 1 eets the 6 ell,established thi2d,%a2t& st

**0% P!a "t && Has a Su&& , e"t!- C!ose Relat o"sh 1 ' th the Peo1!e  
It Ser#es%**

Plaintiff has a close relationship with the people it serves.<sup>1</sup> It is difficult to imagine a situation in which the interests between the litigant and the third party could be properly aligned. Plaintiff seeks to advance its mission through speech and by providing resources to the potential and current clients who seek its services. Federal courts have not limited the close relationship relied upon for third-party standing to relationships like agents and children, guardians and parents, or to Defendant's assertions. See Doc. 30 at 5+. Instead, courts have found the relationship to be satisfied by a wide variety of relationships where the plaintiff could serve as an effective advocate for the third party's rights. See, e.g., *Winters v. Ohio*, 462 U.S. 136, 55 N.Y.2d 555 (1980) (holding that civil defendant had third-party standing to assert the rights of potential victims of child sexual abuse); *Care v. Relation Servs.*, 455 U.S. 913, 90+ A5<;;' (holding that coalition selling non-medical contraceptives had third-party standing to assert the rights of potential customers); *Craig v. (oren, )* 455 U.S. 56-, 5<. A5<;9' (holding that bee vendor had third-party standing to assert the rights of potential customers); *(arros v. )ackson, +.9 U.S. ) .<, )/@ A5</+' (holding that white people's organization had third-party standing to assert the rights of potential "lace %72chase2s'3 \$o-n,*

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<sup>1</sup> Yellowhaile Fnd is not asserting third-party standing on behalf of its staff.



Alabama residents have sought Plaintiff's assistance, and

finding abortion care and travel, and therefore has a close relationship with the people it serves.



the residents of B7%ite2 and 1 a& J have beenK 2el7ctant to 2aise s7ch clai 1 s fo2 fea2  
of %2ovoEin8 additional %olicin8 1 eas72es.H Id. Additionall&, the co72t held that it  
6as 2easonable to %2es7 1 e that Gso 1 e of the i 1 1 i82ants livin8 in B7%ite2 1 a& fea2  
d2a6in8 attention to the i 1 1 i82ation stat7s of the 1

especiall& 6hile livin8 in a %lace 6he2e it is banned, 1 a& not 6ant to d2a6 attention to thei2 desi2e to obtain a la6f7l abo2tion else6he2e.<sup>6</sup>

P2e8nant Alaba1ians face additional hind2ances to filin8 s7it beca7se the& 1 a& be chilled f2o 1 asse2tin8 thei2 o6n 2i8ht to t2avel b& the %7blicit& of a co72t s7it, and so 1 eone seeEin8 to t2avel also faces the i 1 1 inent 1 ootness of thei2 clai 1. See *Sin, Ieton v. W-Iff*, . )@ U.#. 5-9, 55; A5<;9' AGOnl& a fe6 1 onths, at the 1 ost, afte2 the 1 at72in8 of the decision . . . he2 2i8ht the2eto 6ill have been i22evocabl& lostH'. 4t is t27e that %2e8nanc& co7ld co7nt as a ca%able,of,2e%etition,&et,evadin8, 2evie6 e=ce%tion to the 1 ootness doct2ine. See Doc. )@ at 5.. " 7t that is not the onl& conside2ation. #o 1 eone 6ho cannot find the 2eso72ces to t2avel to obtain a la6f7l abo2tion is 7nliEel& to be able to find the 2eso72ces, ti 1 e, and ca%acit& to challen8e these th2eats in co72t. See *2o#ers v. 7hio*, .<< U.#. at .5/ AGJ Khe2e e=ist conside2able %2actical ba22ie2s to s7it . . . beca7se of the s1all financial staEe involved and the econo1ic b72dens of liti8ation.H'. G he 2ealit& isH a %2e8nant %e2son 6ho needs to t2avel b7t cannot do so 6itho7t assistance 6ill be left 6ith Glittle

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<sup>6</sup> Defendant s788ests that the %eo%le Plaintiff se2ves co7ld %2oceed 7nde2 %se7don& 1s. " 7t the co72t in *\$o-n, A&art\*ents. Inc.* did not 2eL7i2e the i 1 1 i82ant 2esidents to %2oceed 7nde2 %se7don& 1s and dete21ined that the asse2ted hind2ances 6e2e eno78h to establish thi2d,%a2t& standin8. *\$o-n, A&art\*ents. Inc., />< F.+d at 5- .*). he sa 1 e is t27e he2e, and the %eo%le Plaintiff se2ves sho7ld not be 2eL7i2ed to %2oceed 7nde2 %se7don& 1s.

incentive to set in motion the process needed to vindicate their own  
rights. *Id.*

"Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff has sufficiently pled the facts necessary to  
establish third-party standing for purposes of this motion to dismiss.

## III. This *Laus* Does Not Establish the Establishment Clause Violation

Contrary to Defendant's assertions, Plaintiff is not asserting the right to  
Defendant to conform to his conduct to state law. *Hennrich v. State Sch. & Hos. Bd. v.  
Halderman*, 9/ U.S. 81, 85; *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*. Instead, it is asserted for declaratory and  
injunctive relief to stop Defendant from violating the United States Constitution. See  
Doc. 5 at II ; 15-9. And nothing about Plaintiff's Dec. 1, 2015 (O-15-3272 (A))-5.8812 (s)-4



state law. Defendant's alleged insinuation that Plaintiff's claim is act of state is not a defense to a claim for violation of state law. See *Id.*

Under Defendant's theory, no plaintiff could ever challenge the constitutionality of an attorney's enforcement of a contract, and that is contrary to settled law. See e.g., *Smith v. Lee*, 5 F.3d 501, 502 n.1 (5th Cir. 1993); *AGJ v. Lee*, 5 F.3d 501, 502 n.1 (5th Cir. 1993). The exercise of prosecutive discretion, like the exercise of executive discretion, is subject to statutory and constitutional limitations.

State, ); #o. )d +9, +@ AAla. 5<.9', a defendant cha28ed 6 ith cons%i2ac& 7nde2 eithe2  
la6 1 7st have the abilit& to challen8e 6 hethe2 that 7nde2l&in8 act is in fact c2i 1 inal.  
#ince Alaba 1 a0s Abo2tion " an cannot be a%%lied to 1 aEe abo2tion ille8al in states  
6 he2e it is %e2 1 itted, Defendant0s asse2tion that abo2tion f7nds violate Alaba 1 a0s  
( ons%i2ac& La6 s 6 hen the& a82ee to hel% %2e8nant %eo%le leave the state and obtain

It is clear that this ban only prohibits abortions that take place within Alabama. The statute provides that it is the responsibility

violate an 7nde2l&in8 c2i 1 inal stat7te.<sup>5)</sup> See



abortion. In *Hoskins*,<sup>5</sup> the Court held that Alabama could prosecute as a  
consent decree entered in Alabama to enforce in a Georgia coalition,

a la 671, o7t,of,state abo2tion, see

4n "ielsen v. 7re, on

to s7%%o2t a la#f-l abo2tion in anothe2 state is not 87ilt& of an& c2i 1 e 7nless Alaba 1 a  
7nconstit7tionall& %72%o2ts to a%%l& its Abo2tion " an o7tside its bo2de2s. Me2el&  
a82eein8 to s7%%o2t an activit& that is le8al violates no la6. See. e.,., Shar&e, ;5-  
#o. )d at 5+; ..

F72the2, Defendant0s hast& dis 1 issal of (i, elo# v. 0ir, inia, .)5 U.#. @-<  
A5<; /',

do in 8 so 6 o 7 l d 2 e L 7 i 2 e the 7 n c o n s t i t u t i o n a l a p p l i c a t i o n o f s t a t e l a 6 A A l a b a 1 a 0 s  
A b o r t i o n " a n ' t o e n t i t l e & l a 6 f 7 l , o 7 t , o f , s t a t e c o n d 7 c t .

As explained above, s- & ra at )N)+, /ho \* &son does not s7%%o2t Defendant0s  
%osition and is not the %anacea Defendant believes









6 ithin the ( onstit7tion, even as it held that ( alifo2nia can 2eL7i2e o7t,of,state %o2E  
%2od7ce2s 6 ho sell %o2E in the state to co 1 %l& 6 ith



offend the First Amendment to the Constitution by offering to provide tests to obtain child abuse reports. // + U.S. v. Williams, 531 U.S. 173, 181. The defendant claimed that such speech was not protected because it was intended to induce or encourage illegal activities. Id. at 181. In Williams, the defendant's speech indisputably violated a federal statute that categorically prohibited certain speech related to child abuse reports. Id. at 181. Unlike abortion, child abuse reports is prohibited across the country, and there is no dispute about its legality or constitutionality.

In Williams, in United States v. Williams, the Eleventh Circuit held the conviction of a defendant who sent messages threatening to kidnap and kill the recipients and their loved ones. 531 U.S. 173, 181. But as in Williams, there was no dispute that the defendant's threats violated the

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in Ne6 Yo2E, to 2est2ict an adve2tise20s activit& in Ne6 Yo2E, o2 to %2event its 2esidents f2o 1 t2avelin8 to Ne6 Yo2E to obtain an abo2tion'. Alaba 1 a cannot %2ohibit its 2esidents f2o 1 t2avelin8 o7t of state fo2 an abo2tion, see Doc. )@ at +-, so it also cannot constit7tionall& %2ohibit the s%eech of hel%e2s 6ho s7%%o2t its 2esidents in e=e2cisin8 that 2i8ht.

B% Pl'a "t && ls E"\*a\*e) " Prote,te) S1ee,h, E31ress #e Co")u,t, a")  
Asso, at o""

Defendant 1 aEes seve2al additional Fi2st A 1 end 1 ent a287 1 ents in s7%%o2t of his 1 otion O each of 6hich can be easil& dis 1 issed.

Fi2st, Defendant does not O and cannot O dis%7te that Plaintiff is en8a8ed in %72e s%eech 6hen it %2ovides info2 1 ation to %2e8nant Alaba 1 ians abo7t la6 f7l, o7t, of,state abo2tion ca2e, incl7din8 2efe22als, 87idance, and 1 o2al s7%%o2t. See 303 Creative LLC v. Elenis, 5.+ #. (t. )<@, )+5) A)-)+' Ae=%lainin8 that all t&%es of Go2al 7tte2ance and the %2inted 6 o2dH constit7te s%eech 7nde2 the Fi2st A 1 end 1 ent'. Ho6 eve2, Defendant a287es that Plaintiff0s financial and %2actical s7%%o2t fo2 %eo%le seeEin8 abo2tions is 7n%2otected b& the Fi2st A 1 end 1 ent. hat a287 1 ent is 1 e2itless.





Defendant concedes that he cannot demonstrate to access that case, see *id.* at 17. He relies on the speech in *LeRoi v. Great Lakes Paper Co.*, 377 U.S. 571, 1964, and *Virginia v. Black*, 530 U.S. 318, 2000, another case relied on by Defendant involving cross-burnings, Plaintiff's speech constitutes an activity that is protected by the First Amendment.

Content-based laws that restrict speech based on its communicative content, which prohibit speech based on the particular viewpoint expressed, are presumptively unconstitutional. *See* *National Socialist Party v. Board of Supervisors*, 457 U.S. 193, 1992. Defendant's attempt to restrict speech based on its content is unconstitutional. *See* *Virginia v. Black*, 530 U.S. 318, 2000. Defendant's attempt to restrict speech based on its content is unconstitutional. *See* *Virginia v. Black*, 530 U.S. 318, 2000.



Coakle, /;+ U.#. .9., . ;< A)-5. '. F7the2, Defendant's threats are viewpoint-based because the silence speaks only when the speaker is silent in support of lawful, of-state abortion. See Planned Parenthood v. Iler, 141 F.3d 1108, 1115 (9th Cir. 2004), cert. denied, 544 U.S. 1000 (2005). See also, e.g., *W. v. Labrador*, No. 20-1500, 2021 WL 10909 (9th Cir. 2021), at \*10 (AD. Idaho Bd. of Health Care, 2021 WL 10909, \*10 (9th Cir. 2021)). Plaintiff argues that threats to provide health care constitute a violation of the First Amendment because the silence speaks in support of lawful abortion. Plaintiff argues that the silence speaks in support of lawful abortion because the silence speaks in support of lawful abortion.

In his motion to dismiss, Defendant does not dispute Plaintiff's claim that its right to association is violated. Plaintiff alleges that Defendant's threats of prosecution chill its association with abortion advocacy groups, funds, and other persons. See, e.g., *Doc. 5 at II 15*; *Doc. 9*. The right to associate with others in pursuit of a wide variety of political, social, economic, religious, and cultural ends is a fundamental right in our society. *Roberts v. U.S. Jaycees*, 496 U.S. 282, 292 (2000). But as a state can only regulate speech if it has a compelling interest, see *Strickland v. Green*, 405 U.S. 712, 716 (1967), it also can only limit association if the association has a compelling interest. See *Boy Scouts of America v. Dale*, 530 U.S. 190, 206 (2000). Although a state has a compelling interest in regulating conduct and in protecting the health and safety of its citizens, the state may not ban speech that is protected by the First Amendment. See also *National Endowment for the Arts v. Finley*, 551 U.S. 539, 555 (2007). The First Amendment protects the right of free speech and free



C% De&e")a''t's Threats Ca'''ot Sur# #e Str ,t S, rut ''-||







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inte227%tion S H'. #tates inf2in8e the 2i8ht to t2ave

As Defendant's Argument that Plaintiff's, as a "Orator" that "Does Not Endorse the Right to Travel Is Invalid"

The United States Supreme Court has rejected the Defendant's reliance in his citation to First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti, 437 U.S. 956, 55 S.Ct. 1273, 56 L.Ed.2d 257, for the proposition that the right to travel is a general personal constitutional guarantee that does not extend to Plaintiff. Doc. 1 at 10. Addressing the lower courts' First Amendment analysis, the Court held that the First Amendment restriction is not the same as those of First Amendment rights and, if so, the same as those of national interests. Instead, the restriction must be the same as the challenged statute abridges expression that the First Amendment was meant to protect. Bellotti, 437 U.S. at 959. In holding the statute unconstitutional, the Court reasoned that the Constitution often protects interests broader than those of the state and vindication, and that the speech protected by Plaintiff is at the heart of the First Amendment's protection. Id. If the speech is not the same as those of national interests, no one would







to provide travel assistance to the indigent b& c2i

of the vehicle for hire. Crandall, ;+ U.#. at +/N+<.) Nevada a287ed this ta= 6as  
Gnot a ta= 7%on the %assen8e2, b7t 7%on the b7siness of the ca22ie2 6ho t2ans%o2ts

of the same. Even if Plaintiff's agents are not finally convicted, the consequences of the charge and the process to combat it are overwhelming in itself, Plaintiff cannot instruct its agents to take that risk. Defendant's threats have forced Plaintiff to forego its desired travel and to stop facilitating travel for those it serves. Otherwise

55+; A<th (i2. )--9' At2avele2 2ef7sed to sho6 identification o2 s7b 1 it to a sea2ch,  
so 6as not allo6ed to fl& to Washin8ton, D. (.'.  
He2e, beca7se of Defendant0s th2eats, Plaintiff is %2ohibited f2o 1 t2avelin8 fo2

Even if the Court finds Alabama can tolerate helms' access la 671, of, of, state abo2tion ca2e, the th2atened a%%lication of Alabama (ode D5+A, . . . is not %e2 1 issible beca7se Defendant's th2eats a2e bein8 asse2ted 6 ith the %2edo 1 inant %72%ose of i 1 %edin8 t2avel o2 %7nishin8 those 6ho en8a8e in that t2avel.

C% De&e'')a''t M sstates the Sta'' )ar ) the Court Shou!) A11!- Here%

Defendant a287es a G2est2iction Jon the 2i8ht to t2avelK that is 2ationall& 2elated to the offense itself is 6 ithin the #tate0s %o6 e2.H Doc. )@ at +9 Acitin8 )ones v. Hel \*s, . /) U.#. .5) A5<@5''. " & doin8 so, it a%%ea2s Defendant s788ests that 2est2ictions on the 2i8ht to t2avel a2e s7b:ected to onl& 2ational basis 2evie6 and that this (o72t sho7ld find the cons%i2ac& stat7te 2easonabl& 2elated to the Abo2tion " an. hat 1 ost ce2tainl& is not a test 2eco8ni?ed b& co72ts fo2 violations of the 2i8ht to t2avel. )ones c2eated a 17ch 1 o2e li 1 ited e=ce%tion to the 2i8ht to t2avel. 4t is a%%licable onl& 6hen the G2est2iction . . . is 2ationall& 2elated to the offense itself O eithe2 to the %2oced72e fo2 asce2tainin8 87ilt o2 innocence, o2 to the i 1 %osition of a %2o%e2 %7nish 1 ent o2 2e 1 ed&H . /) U.#. at .)). Defendant c7ts that standa2d off in his 1 otion, and i 1 %lies the (o72t c2eated a test it did not. o be clea2, )ones does not c2eate a b2oad standa2d b& 6hich co72ts 7%hold 2e87lations if the& a2e 2easonabl& 2elated to anothe2 offense o7tside these t6o na22o6 conte=ts. Id.

Else6he2e, Defendant s788ests his t2avel 2est2ictions a2e :7stified beca7se, in his vie6, Plaintiff's s7%%o2t is c2i 1 inal. Doc. )@ at +/. A8ain, Defendant

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inconvenience cases in which the burden is significant and that Plaintiff is entitled to relief.

Even if the case is a loose balancing test as Defendant asserts, the foundational importance of the right to travel, and the consequences to the nation that follow when it is denied, demonstrate that Defendant's threats cannot withstand judicial scrutiny. Defendant argues that even if his threats violate the right to travel, the state's interests outweigh the interests of Plaintiff and those it serves. As illustrated in *Edwards*, 5 U.S. at 531. One need only look to *Edwards* to see a threat that was soathetic to the grave and deepening social and economic dislocation that led California to see to use its police power to restrict travel, but nonetheless do not the travel restriction. *Id.* No matter the significant interest the state had in exercising its police power, the Court found that these interests were outweighed by the interest of the people across state lines as too important. *Id.* The same conclusion must follow here, and Defendant's motion to dismiss should be

CONC

For the foregoing reasons, the Court

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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