



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The PRO Act's ABC Test Threatens Women's Career Options
Fight for Freelancers launches second video in its Right vs. Wrong series

WASHINGTON, D.C., APRIL 20, 2021 – Fight For Freelancers USA, a nonpartisan, grassroots, self-funded group of independent contractors, creatives and small businesses, launched the second video in its Right vs. Wrong series urging lawmakers to reject the PRO Act after similar legislation based on the ABC Test caused economic devastation for many women-owned small businesses in California.

The PRO Act would redefine employee status under the National Labor Relations Act using the same regressive ABC Test that's in the destructive California law called Assembly Bill 5. This ABC Test is three oversimplified criteria created in the 1930s to determine whether someone is an employee or an independent contractor. As *Forbes* reported shortly after the California law went into effect, it left “women business owners reeling.”¹

That was before the Covid-19 pandemic, when even more women saw their income opportunities disappear in a matter of months.

“Nearly three million women left the workforce in 2020, and Vice President Kamala Harris called the unprecedented situation a national emergency,” says Fight for Freelancers co-founder and freelance writer Jen Singer of New Jersey. “Many women freelance because it affords us the flexibility we need to care for our families, but the ABC Test presumes we are employees until proven otherwise, and most modern independent contractors can't pass the oversimplified test.”

WATCH the new two-minute video [at the Fight For Freelancers USA website:](#)



¹ “California’s AB5 Leaves Women Business Owners Reeling,” *Forbes*, January 19, 2020

The PRO Act would introduce the ABC Test into federal law for the first time. President Biden campaigned on a pledge to make this ABC Test the basis for all labor, employment and tax law, following the model that continues to cause so much chaos in California—where more than 100 professional exemptions have been added so far, after careers were damaged or destroyed.

“Like many women who choose to freelance, I earn more and I’m happier as an independent contractor, which is how I’ve earned a full-time living for nearly two decades now,” says Fight For Freelancers co-founder and freelance writer Kim Kavin of New Jersey. “Lawmakers say that ABC Test laws like the PRO Act will help women like me, but in fact they misclassify me as an employee of my clients, creating all kinds of legal gray areas and confusion for companies. It’s just plain wrong to misclassify independent contractors as employees in any law.”

The Fight For Freelancers video series calls on lawmakers to learn from the mistakes made in California and vote no on the PRO Act as long as the ABC Test is still in it.

#FightForFreelancers #NoABCforUSA
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