

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE RIGHT OF REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM IN SAN MATEO COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States acknowledged in its 1973 landmark decision Roe vs. Wade that the ability to make a private medical decision impacting one's own reproductive health is a Constitutionally Protected Right; and

WHEREAS, prior to 1973, the year when Roe v. Wade was enacted, women faced significant obstacles to safe reproductive health services, resulting in widespread loss of life and serious illness; and

WHEREAS, in August 2021, the Supreme Court abdicated its responsibility to uphold the precedent set in the Roe decision, and allowed Texas to enact Senate Bill 8 into law and by doing so the 29 million people residing in Texas now live in a state where Roe vs. Wade has been, for all intents and purposes, functionally repealed; and

WHEREAS, nearly 600 pieces of legislation were enacted to prohibit access to safe legal abortions and women's rights around the nation this year alone; and

WHEREAS, the impact of these restrictions and bans on reproductive freedom disproportionately impact populations that already face barriers to accessing care, including communities of color, people of lower socio-economic status, immigrants, and young people; and

WHEREAS, the state of California has worked to make reproductive freedom a fundamental right for all Californians, protecting a person's rights to reproductive health

and bodily autonomy, their privacy regarding reproductive decisions, their access to safe and legal abortion, and fundamentally, the right to choose whether or not to terminate a pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, it is the basic right of all women and persons to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children and to have the information and means to do so, their right to attain the highest standard of sexual and reproductive health, and their right to make decisions concerning reproduction free of discrimination, coercion and violence; and

WHEREAS, as states around the country enact laws that violate the fundamental right to decide whether or not to terminate a pregnancy, the County of San Mateo serves as a model to defend and fight for reproductive freedom, and welcome all those seeking to fully exercise their reproductive rights and access safe legal abortion.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that it is the sense of the Board of Supervisors to affirm the right of reproductive freedom for all in the County of San Mateo.

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