

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING THE CITY OF
FRESNO A DEFENDER FOR REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

WHEREAS, California has worked to make reproductive freedom a fundamental right for all Californians by guaranteeing privacy regarding reproductive decisions and protecting a person's right to bodily autonomy, access to abortion, and to make independent reproductive choices including whether or not to terminate a pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, reproductive rights are under attack in this country as states enact laws that restrict or ban abortion with serious implications for reproductive freedom in communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, abortion restrictions, bans, and limitations to reproductive freedom disproportionately impact populations that already face barriers to accessing care including communities of color, individuals with low income, immigrant communities, youth, and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, autonomy and agency in reproductive matters are central to secure gender, economic, and racial equity in all aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, sufficient access to reproductive care is central to individual's ability to retain autonomy over their body, their choice to have children or not have children, and parent the children they have in safe and sustainable communities; and

WHEREAS, abortion is health care and is a safe and common procedure, with one in four women obtaining an abortion by age 45; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 Governor Gavin Newsom issued the California Proclamation on Reproductive Freedom to educate Californians on their reproductive rights under the state constitution and laws and affirm California's commitment to reproductive freedom; and

WHEREAS, as states around the country enact abortion restrictions and outright bans to abortions, the City can serve as a model and commit to defend and fight for reproductive freedom and welcome all those seeking to fully exercise their reproductive rights and access safe legal abortion; and

WHEREAS, every person has a right to comprehensive, evidence-based information about the full range of reproductive health care options, and should have access to comprehensive reproductive health care throughout their lives, regardless of income, race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender, ability, immigration status, geographic circumstance, criminal history, and insurance-coverage status; and

WHEREAS, these decisions have saved lives, strengthened families, and enabled individuals to participate more fully in society, and we must guard against efforts to erode the availability and affordability of abortion and the protections affirmed by *Roe v Wade*.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fresno as follows:

1. The City is hereby a champion and defender of health equity and reproductive freedom for all, so that anyone may have access to the reproductive services they need, when they need them.

2. The City calls on the United States Congress to protect reproductive freedom nationwide by enacting legislation to protect access to abortion and other reproductive care without government interference.

3. This resolution shall be effective upon final approval.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF FRESNO) ss.
CITY OF FRESNO)

I, TODD STERMER, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____ 2022.

AYES :
NOES :
ABSENT :
ABSTAIN :

Mayor Approval: _____, 2022
Mayor Approval/No Return: _____, 2022
Mayor Veto: _____, 2022
Council Override Vote: _____, 2022

TODD STERMER
City Clerk

By: _____
Deputy Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DOUGLAS T. SLOAN
City Attorney

By: _____
Doug Sloan Date