

Resolution

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RIGHT OF ALL NORTH CAROLINIANS TO SAFE AND COMPREHENSIVE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE

WHEREAS, access to comprehensive reproductive health care, including safe and legal abortion, is a fundamental right; and

WHEREAS, after the United States Supreme Court overturned *Roe v Wade* in its decision in *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization*, both houses of the North Carolina General Assembly passed Senate Bill 20 on a party-line vote to limit the rights of women, specifically their bodily autonomy, by prohibiting abortion after 12 weeks of pregnancy and restricting access to medication abortion after 10 weeks of pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 20 erects new barriers to the provision of health care that are medically unnecessary, such as additional in-person appointments and new clinic requirements; and

WHEREAS, restricting access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion, will make it harder for the most vulnerable to access healthcare, which medical professionals say will lead to preventable deaths; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that most North Carolinians support access to safe, legal abortion, and despite the legislature's own bill filing rules, Senate Bill 20 was released with little notice and no transparency, as the Republican legislative leadership crafted this harmful bill behind closed doors with no opportunity for public comment; and

WHEREAS, the Carrboro Town Council has a history of supporting full access to safe, comprehensive reproductive health care—such as by unanimously adopting “A Resolution Calling for Repeal of the Hyde Amendment and Supporting the Right of All Women to Safe and Comprehensive Health Care” in 2018—and rejects in the strongest terms Senate Bill 20 and other legislation aimed at limiting or denying access to abortion;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carrboro Town Council supports the right of all people to access the full spectrum of reproductive healthcare, including abortion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council commends Senator Graig Meyer and Representative Allen Buansi for voting against Senate Bill 20; supports Governor Roy Cooper's decision to veto Senate Bill 20; and encourages members of the North Carolina General Assembly to uphold the Governor's veto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council urges Carrboro's delegation in the General Assembly to prioritize the health care needs of all residents, to reject further attempts to restrict access to abortion, and to increase investment in access to health care, affordable birth control including emergency contraception, and comprehensive age-appropriate sex education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council encourages residents of Carrboro to speak out against these egregious attacks on bodily autonomy and make their views known to members of the General Assembly.

This the 16th day of May, 2023.

A motion was made by Council Member Posada, seconded by Council Member Foushee that the resolution be approved.

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Susan Romaine, Council Member Barbara Foushee, Council Member Randee Haven-O'Donnell, Council Member Danny Nowell, Council Member Eliazar Posada, Council Member Sammy Slade.

Absent: Mayor Damon Seils


Susan Romaine, Mayor Pro Tem

