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**SR-7** (2019-2020)

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ENROLLED JANUARY 23, 2019

PASSED IN SENATE JANUARY 22, 2019

AMENDED IN SENATE JANUARY 07, 2019

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2019–2020 REGULAR SESSION

## SENATE RESOLUTION

**NO. 7**

Introduced by Senators Leyva, Atkins, Caballero, Durazo, Galgiani, Hurtado, Jackson, Mitchell, Rubio, and Skinner

**December 03, 2018**

Relative to women's reproductive health.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SR 7, Leyva.

WHEREAS, January 22, 2019, marks the 46th anniversary of the United States Supreme Court's landmark decision in *Roe v. Wade* (1973) 410 U.S. 113, which affirmed that every woman has a fundamental right to control her own reproductive decisions and to decide whether to continue a pregnancy or obtain an abortion, and is an occasion deserving of acknowledgment; and

WHEREAS, *Roe v. Wade* has been the cornerstone of women's ability to control their reproductive lives, allowing every woman in the United States the right to decide when, if, and with whom to have children, and how many children to have, and has helped facilitate women's economic and societal participation in the United States; and

WHEREAS, In the years prior to the *Roe v. Wade* decision, illegal abortion accounted for approximately 17 percent of all reported deaths attributable to pregnancy and childbirth, and many women were severely injured as a result of "back alley" abortion procedures; and

WHEREAS, Interference with a woman's right to choose causes women to be forced into illegal and dangerous abortions, as they often were in the United States before the *Roe v. Wade* decision. Many women are forced to make these decisions today in countries where abortion is illegal and where the unsafe methods of illegal abortion lead to 13 percent of global maternal deaths annually, or eight maternal deaths every hour; and

WHEREAS, Roe v. Wade continues to protect the health and freedom of women throughout the United States. National peer-reviewed studies show abortion is a safe medical procedure, increasingly provided through outpatient medication, that nearly one in four women in the United States will access; and

WHEREAS, Roe v. Wade is in serious jeopardy of being overturned or further eroded due to President Donald J. Trump's appointment of two justices to the United States Supreme Court who have a record of being hostile to a woman's constitutional right to choose, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh; and

WHEREAS, States are passing legislation that creates barriers to abortion and there are more than a dozen cases limiting abortion rights that could be considered by the Supreme Court of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Providers of sexual and reproductive healthcare are still under serious, unrelenting attack for providing essential information and services, such as abortion, as evidenced by bomb threats, arson, and vandalism in California and the fact that death threats against abortion providers doubled, and incidents of clinic obstruction tripled, nationally from 2016 to 2017 alone; and

WHEREAS, The State of California stands in strong support of every woman's fundamental right, as confirmed in Roe v. Wade, to make decisions regarding pregnancy and commits to boldly advance access to sexual and reproductive healthcare within our state; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate urges the President of the United States and the United States Congress to express their support for a woman's fundamental right to control her own reproductive decisions, as well as their support for access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare, including the services provided by Planned Parenthood; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.