Resolution urging the United States Congress and the Biden Administration to codify Roe vs. Wade through the passage of legislation protecting Reproductive Rights; recognizing Abortion as Healthcare, and urging approaches that uplift autonomy for women and other birthing people.

WHEREAS, On May 2, 2022, Politico first reported a leaked Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) initial draft majority opinion written by Justice Samuel Alito to overturn Roe vs. Wade, effectively eradicating women, and birthing people’s constitutional right to choose; and

WHEREAS, On May 3, 2022, Chief Justice John Roberts confirmed the initial draft majority opinion’s authenticity placing reproductive freedom on the line with women and birthing people continuing to need abortion options who now may seek life-threatening alternatives; and

WHEREAS, The impact of criminalizing abortion will further marginalize our most vulnerable communities, people with low-incomes, Black, Brown, and Indigenous women, and birthing people who will be disproportionately affected by any abortion bans - according to the Center for American Progress, women of nearly all races and ethnicities face higher rates of poverty than their male counterparts; the highest rates of poverty are experienced by American Indian or Alaska Natives (AIAN) women, Black women, and Latinas; about one in four AIAN women live in poverty and will likely not have safe access to abortion; and

WHEREAS, If Roe vs. Wade is overturned many women and birthing people in large swaths of the United States of America with conservative leadership will lose what little autonomy they have and will need to seek treatment out-of-state, if they can afford to do so,
or face criminal punishment, as 13 states have “trigger” laws that will automatically outlaw abortion if Roe vs. Wade is overturned; and

WHEREAS, If women or birthing people want an abortion or access to other reproductive freedoms, that decision should not be governed by the state, which historically has acted as an oppressive regime on women’s and birthing people’s autonomy over one’s body, finances, and livelihoods; and

WHEREAS, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer issued this statement following media reports of a draft Supreme Court decision overturning the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling: “... the Supreme Court is poised to inflict the greatest restriction of rights in the past fifty years - not just on women but on all Americans”; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gavin Newsom, California Legislature Senate Pro Tem Toni Atkins, and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon announced on May 2, 2022, that they will propose an amendment enshrining the right to an abortion in the California Constitution so “California builds a firewall around this right in our state constitution,” and

WHEREAS, In September 2021, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a resolution proclaiming “Abortion is Healthcare,” continuing our legacy of placing necessary weight on this fundamental right that will impact San Franciscans with the least resources; and

WHEREAS, Congress and the Biden Administration can no longer wait for Roe vs. Wade to be officially overturned and must act boldly and pass legislation that will protect women and birthing people’s reproductive rights in all states, like H.R. 3755 - Women’s Health Protection Act of 2021, which passed out of the U.S. House of Representatives, but was stalled at the U.S. Senate; and

WHEREAS, We must act swiftly to protect women and birthing people across the nation and remain committed to advocating and fighting to protect access to reproductive
care; steadfast in the belief that women and other birthing people alone, hold the right to make
decisions about their bodies and futures; and supporting safe access to abortion everywhere;
now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco recognizes Abortion as Healthcare and firmly condemns the overturning of Roe vs. Wade; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors and the City and County of San Francisco commit to passing and implementing legislation that uplifts women and birthing people’s choices regarding their bodies and advances reproductive justice; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco urges Congress and the Biden Administration to act swiftly in passing and implementing legislation such as H.R. 3755 - Women’s Health Protection Act of 2021 at the federal level to protect reproductive rights and freedom; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco refuse to entertain assertions that the dignity and autonomy of women and birthing people are open to negotiation, and declares that it is a champion of reproductive freedom and justice; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of the Resolution to the offices of San Francisco’s federal delegation.
Resolution urging the United States Congress and the Biden Administration to codify Roe vs. Wade through the passage of legislation protecting Reproductive Rights; recognizing Abortion as Healthcare, and urging approaches that uplift autonomy for women and other birthing people.

May 10, 2022 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 5/10/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board