



Legislation Text

File #: 960779, Version: 2

991471
SUBSTITUTE 2

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Substitute resolution affirming the City's stand against domestic terrorism in the form of violence against health-care providers, especially those providing family planning services.

This substitute resolution affirms the City of Milwaukee's stand against domestic terrorism in the form of violence against health-care providers, especially those providing family planning services.

Whereas, *Roe v. Wade* was adopted by the United States Supreme Court on January 22, 1973, granting women legal access to abortion services under the sanction of the right to privacy; and

Whereas, A nationwide campaign of violence, vandalism and blockades is curtailing the availability of abortion services and endangering providers and patients; and

Whereas, Since 1977, 5 doctors, 2 clinic employees and a clinic escort have been murdered and 16 additional attempted murders have also occurred; and

Whereas, In addition to the shootings and murders, over 2,300 reported acts of violence including bombings, arsons, death threats, kidnappings and assaults, and over 35,000 reported acts of disruption have been directed at abortion providers since 1977; and

Whereas, Physicians and other clinic workers must take extraordinary measures for protection because they face the daily possibility of terrorism and violence in order to provide women with essential reproductive health services; and

Whereas, Some anti-abortion proponents have created an atmosphere of intense intimidation and violence that deters physicians from entering the field and have caused others to stop providing abortion services; and

Whereas, Wisconsin is one of the 12 states that face particularly sustained levels of violence; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee that the Common Council affirms its stand against domestic terrorism in the form of clinic and clinic-related violence, including harassment of abortion providers, clinic employees and patients both on and off clinic premises; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the City of Milwaukee's public safety employees are directed to act in a manner that affords zero tolerance for clinic violence and harassment; and, be it

Further Resolved, That those persons who harass, terrorize, threaten or injure clinic providers, employees or associates or who damage clinic buildings or property, are advised that they will be punished to the full extent of the law; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the City of Milwaukee's public safety employees are nonetheless directed to act in a manner that demonstrates full regard for the right of citizens to assemble, demonstrate and protest peaceably in accordance with their First Amendment constitutional rights; and, be it

Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Milwaukee Coalition for Choice, the Milwaukee Chapter of the National Organization for Women, the National Abortion Rights Action League of Wisconsin, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Women's Network and Peace Action Milwaukee.

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09/18/00