

ATTACHMENT

For Item

#24

Tuesday,
May 24, 2022

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE
CLERK OF THE BOARD

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From: henkinp@earthlink.net
To: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Cc](#)
Subject: [External] REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE ASSESSMENT IS EXPENSIVE - WRONG TIME FOR IT (Please file with item 24)
Date: Monday, May 23, 2022 7:46:34 AM

Hi Supervisors,

The proposal to CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN THIS COUNTY AND ADVOCATE FOR STATE LEGISLATION AND FUNDING FOR SUCH SERVICES AND RIGHTS is one of a series of alarmist actions, taken in response to a Supreme Court draft decision.

I realize this is an emotional subject for many but we've got to think, not take up time for knee-jerk reactions.

The overview says clearly: the Court is 'poised to rule on a case,' 'possibility.' I would like to know the actual impact of this case. My understanding is that it is a Mississippi case, may have limited application to other states, and the court may not overrule Roe vs. Wade in its entirety. Therefore, I see no use in panicking or spending money on a comprehensive assessment - maybe a preliminary assessment is in order at this time.

Yet the Supervisors would spend an undetermined amount of money to Conduct a comprehensive assessment of reproductive health care services offered by the County of San Diego and County health care contractors, including barriers to care, opportunities to optimize reproductive health care services and to expand partnerships with reproductive health care providers, opportunities to reduce and address health disparities for marginalized communities. Sounds expensive.

I am all for expressing an opinion, advocacy, and promoting rights, hopefully for all, but to spend alot of money on something that is not even final and may not be what is feared is plain silly.

Let me know what you think.

Regards,

Paul Henkin
henkinp@earthlink.net

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From: henkinp@earthlink.net
To: [Anderson, Joel](#); [Fletcher, Nathan \(BOS\)](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Vargas, Nora](#); [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#)
Cc: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Subject: [External] ABORTION RIGHTS ARE ENSHRINED - DON'T TAMPER WITH THEM
Date: Saturday, May 21, 2022 4:00:50 PM

Hi Supervisors,

I realize this is an emotional subject for many but we've got to think, not take up time for knee-jerk reactions, but maybe this is an opportunity to get women, husbands, maybe even significant others, all uniting on this, instead of carving out another legal niche which is not even necessary.

The State Constitution is a document giving broad rights to all individuals for the long-term rather than giving narrow rights to select individuals whenever something comes up (which could also be seen as enshrining a form of discrimination, by the way) .

The Board of Supervisors has already approved a board letter "Declaring San Diego County a Reproductive Justice Champion."

The overview says The Supreme Court is poised to overturn Roe v. Wade and allow states to make abortion illegal within their borders. My understanding is that it is a Mississippi case, may have limited application to other states, and the court may not overrule Roe vs. Wade in its entirety. I see no use in panicking and sending out another Board letter calling for specific action where we don't know all the facts.

Further, the actual resolution calls for "enshrining the right to abortion in the California Constitution" and "legislation that will allow the voters to enshrine this right for all in California." 'All' needs to include husbands (if applicable) as well. I would support a law that says '...in cases of rape, incest, or life-threatening danger to mother or fetus upon consultation with the husband and medical personnel' but not just on demand.

The California Supreme Court has already said the Constitution's right to privacy protects the right to an abortion (People v. Belous, 458 P.2d 194, 199 (Cal. 1969) and there are laws protecting abortion (CAL. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §§ 123462 and 123466)

Considering the hoopla over COVID and the discrimination between the vaxxed and unvaxxed, the lack of medical alternatives, and the lack of freedom of choice in basic decisions (such as whether to use a facemask where it is unnecessary and harmful, **I think that freedom of medical choice should be enshrined in the Constitution PERIOD.** Whether in seatbelts, medical situations, or other situations should not matter.

Let me know what you think.

Regards,

Paul Henkin
henkinp@earthlink.net



May 23, 2022

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Letter of Support for Strengthening Access to Reproductive Health Care (Item 24) and Supporting Efforts to Amend the California Constitution to Enshrine the Right to Abortion (Item 25)

Dear Chair Fletcher, Vice Chair Vargas, and Honorable Board of Supervisors,

I write to express my and San Diego Pride's strong support for the Board Letters coming before the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors related to access to reproductive health care in San Diego County and the protection of the legal right to abortion in the State of California.

Under the leadership of Vice Chair Nora Vargas, the County of San Diego has become a true Reproductive Freedom County. While other regions in the nation are moving backward by restricting fundamental reproductive rights, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors is moving forward to focus on access to reproductive health care and to further protect the right to abortion in California.

As advocates for LGBTQIA+ justice and equality, San Diego Pride applauds the County's efforts to ensure both legal and practical access to abortion care for all people who need such healthcare, and make no mistake, LGBTQIA+ people - specifically, non-binary and transgender people and non-heterosexual cisgender women - need abortion care as well. Reproductive justice is inexorably linked with LGBTQIA+ justice, and decades of research and data prove that barriers to accessing reproductive healthcare always hit underserved communities - including LGBTQIA+ folks - the hardest. The proposal to assess reproductive health care services offered by the County and its health care contractors will benefit LGBTQIA+ people, and is aligned with the County of San Diego's own stated commitments to health equity and reproductive freedom.

Additionally, I applaud the efforts to focus the County's advocacy in support of State regulatory, budgetary, and legislative efforts related to reproductive health care services and rights. The constitutional right to privacy, guaranteed under the California Constitution, unequivocally includes a pregnant person's right to choose whether or not to continue a pregnancy or have an abortion. While this protection is clear, we can and must do more in California in the face of others who will tear down this fundamental constitutional right across our nation. The Board Letter supporting a constitutional amendment to enshrine the right to abortion is the right action for the County of San Diego to take to meet this moment.

Founded in 1974, San Diego Pride is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose mission is: Fostering pride, equality, and respect for all lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities locally, nationally, and globally. www.sdpride.org

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San Diego Pride enthusiastically supports the reproductive health care assessment proposed by Vice Chair Vargas and Chair Fletcher. San Diego Pride also enthusiastically supports the resolution supporting the constitutional amendment enshrining permanent protections for abortion which has been proposed by Vice Chair Vargas and Supervisor Lawson-Remer. I look forward to working alongside you in partnership to help make the County of San Diego and California the strongest Reproductive Freedom County and State in the nation, and a County and State that pushes toward equity for **all** people.

Sincerely,

Jen LaBarbera
Director of Education and Advocacy
San Diego Pride