

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(8) Nay(0) Abstain(1) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 05/09/2022

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 07/19/2022

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 22-0002-S73

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Mid-City Neighborhood Council supports the LA City Council's resolution to support legal and safe abortions. Restricting or banning access to abortions inequitably impacts women and disproportionately impacts low-income women, making abortion access a human rights issue. Overall, preventing access to abortion will have a disastrous effect on many women's mental and physical health. Further, limiting abortion access will devastate some women's economic opportunities; this is especially true for the many women who do not have access to maternity leave or affordable child care. Decades of research has shown that legalizing abortion improves public health. For instance, research has shown that states with more restrictive abortion laws have higher rates of maternal mortality, which means limiting access to abortion is associated with more women dying from complications related to pregnancy or childbirth (Hawkins et al., 2020; Vilda et al., 2021). Moreover, increased access to abortion leads to fewer children born into poverty and lower rates of infant mortality (Gruber et al., 1999). Finally, legalizing abortion has been shown to reduce crime, including violent crime and property crime (Donohue & Levitt, 2001). Taken together, legalized abortion improves the lives of many. Perhaps more importantly, restricting access to abortion severely limits women's autonomy over their bodies—a clear and alarming violation of human rights. Thank you for your time and consideration. Best Regards, Mid City Neighborhood Council

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Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council
Honorable Members of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners
Honorable Members of the Commission on the Status of Women
Honorable Civil and Human Rights Commissioners

**RE: Right to Safe Abortion Codification / Reproductive Rights / Dobbs v. Jackson
Womens Health Clinic / Roe v. Wade / Planned Parenthood v. Casey / United States
Supreme Court**

CF 22-0002-S73

The Mid-City Neighborhood Council supports the LA City Council's resolution to support legal and safe abortions. Restricting or banning access to abortions inequitably impacts women and disproportionately impacts low-income women, making abortion access a human rights issue. Overall, preventing access to abortion will have a disastrous effect on many women's mental and physical health. Further, limiting abortion access will devastate some women's economic opportunities; this is especially true for the many women who do not have access to maternity leave or affordable child care.

Decades of research has shown that legalizing abortion improves public health. For instance, research has shown that states with more restrictive abortion laws have higher rates of maternal mortality, which means limiting access to abortion is associated with more women dying from complications related to pregnancy or childbirth (Hawkins et al., 2020; Vilda et al., 2021). Moreover, increased access to abortion leads to fewer children born into poverty and lower rates of infant mortality (Gruber et al., 1999). Finally, legalizing abortion has been shown to reduce crime, including violent crime and property crime (Donohue & Levitt, 2001). Taken together, legalized abortion improves the lives of many. Perhaps more importantly, restricting access to abortion severely limits women's autonomy over their bodies—a clear and alarming violation of human rights.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,
Mid City Neighborhood Council

References

Donohue III, J. J., & Levitt, S. D. (2001). The impact of legalized abortion on crime. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 116(2), 379-420.

Gruber, J., Levine, P., & Staiger, D. (1999). Abortion legalization and child living circumstances: Who is the “marginal child”? *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 114(1), 263-291.

Hawkins, S. S., Ghiani, M., Harper, S., Baum, C. F., & Kaufman, J. S. (2020). Impact of state-level changes on maternal mortality: a population-based, quasi-experimental study. *American journal of preventive medicine*, 58(2), 165-174.

Vilda, D., Wallace, M. E., Daniel, C., Evans, M. G., Stoecker, C., & Theall, K. P. (2021). State Abortion Policies and Maternal Death in the United States, 2015–2018. *American Journal of Public Health*, 111(9), 1696-1704.