

State of Vermont

Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

Senate Resolution

By Senators Lyons, Ashe, Ayer, Balint, Baruth, Benning, Bray, Brooks, Campion, Clarkson, Ingram, Kitchel, MacDonald, McCormack, Nitka, Pearson, Pollina, Rodgers, Sirotkin, Starr, Westman, and White,

S.R. 4. Senate resolution relating to supporting a women's right to decide her own reproductive choices, commemorating the 44th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Roe v. Wade*, and the 52nd anniversary of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England.

Whereas, on January 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), established that the U.S. Constitution protects a woman's right to privacy and limits government interference with medical decisions, and

Whereas, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England has been providing essential health care services to all Vermonters since 1965, and all Vermonters continue to have access to Planned Parenthood's services at its health care centers regardless of income, and

Whereas, the State of Vermont has set a goal to reduce unintended pregnancies to 35 percent of all pregnancies by 2020, and

Whereas, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England helps individuals and families make responsible choices that contribute to our overall public health, and

Whereas, the Senate of the State of Vermont believes that the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Roe v. Wade* ensures that abortion remains a safe and legal procedure for a woman to consider, if and when she needs it, and

Whereas, in 2015, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England staff saw over 18,000 Vermonters who visited for essential health care services, trusted information, and family planning services, and

Whereas, the State of Vermont strives to enhance the health of all its citizens, including women of all ages, and to strengthen individuals and families by encouraging and promoting access to comprehensive family planning services, and

Whereas, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England plays a pivotal role in Vermont's health care landscape, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate of the State of Vermont, on the 44th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* and the 52nd anniversary of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, urges Congress and other state legislatures to preserve the rights protected in *Roe v. Wade* and to preserve access to essential health care services, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Senate of the State of Vermont reaffirms the right of every Vermont woman to privacy, autonomy, and safety in making personal decisions regarding reproduction

and family planning and the right to continued access to safe and legal abortion, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Senate of the State of Vermont acknowledges and celebrates Planned Parenthood of Northern New England's 52 years of providing essential, high quality health services to all Vermonters and advocating for and promoting women's health, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Planned Parenthood of Northern New England and the Vermont Congressional Delegation.