

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 18

Expressing support for the recognition of March 10, 2025, as “Abortion Provider Appreciation Day”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2025

Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. NORTON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the recognition of March 10, 2025, as “Abortion Provider Appreciation Day”.

Whereas March 10 has been established as a day to show appreciation for the essential, high-quality care that abortion providers and all staff provide to their communities and those traveling to their communities, and to celebrate their courage, compassion, and dedication to their work;

Whereas March 10 was selected for “Abortion Provider Appreciation Day” in honor of Dr. David Gunn, who was killed on March 10, 1993, outside his abortion clinic in Pensacola, Florida, by a White supremacist and anti-

abortion extremist in the first known instance of the murder of an abortion provider;

Whereas abortions are provided in-person and through telehealth by facilities such as independent clinics, Planned Parenthood health care centers, hospitals, and private offices of doctors, and all of the staff working at those facilities are essential to ensuring patients receive needed care;

Whereas, on June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States erroneously overturned *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, 597 U.S. 215 (2022) (referred to in this preamble as “the Dobbs decision”), reversing decades of legal precedent affirming the right to an abortion and unleashing devastation on an already precarious abortion access landscape;

Whereas States across the United States have moved to restrict access to abortion care, and 19 States have banned some or all access to an abortion as of March 2025;

Whereas, because of State abortion bans and restrictions, scores of clinics and health care centers in already underserved areas and maternal health deserts have closed, forcing more patients to remain pregnant against their will or to travel out-of-State for abortion care, increasing wait times, straining already thin resources, and pushing people farther and farther away from their homes;

Whereas abortion providers and all staff play a critical role in a world where it has become increasingly difficult for individuals to receive essential and time-sensitive care once those individuals have made decisions that are right for their bodies, lives, and futures;

Whereas abortion providers and all staff help to ensure that all individuals who can become pregnant can make their own decisions about their bodies and their pregnancies, and support the decisions of their patients by treating them with dignity, empathy, compassion, and respect, despite numerous challenges due to abortion bans and restrictions;

Whereas abortion providers and all staff play an essential role within the reproductive justice framework, which was created by 12 Black women in 1994, who formulated a human rights framework that demands every person has the human right to bodily autonomy, which includes the right to choose if, when, and how to have children and the right to parent children in safe and sustainable communities;

Whereas individuals seeking abortion care across the United States also rely on the work of abortion funds and practical support organizations to access abortion care for themselves and their families;

Whereas abortion funds and practical support organizations that rely on donations face increasing demand following the Dobbs decision as individuals are forced to travel longer distances, find childcare or lodging, and raise money to cover the ever-increasing costs of an abortion and wraparound support;

Whereas the network of abortion funds, clinics, providers, and supporters that work to ensure access to abortion is being strained beyond capacity;

Whereas restrictions on abortion care have far-reaching consequences that deepen existing inequities and worsen

health outcomes for pregnant people, people giving birth, and their families;

Whereas people who are denied abortion care are more likely to experience high blood pressure and other serious medical conditions during the end of pregnancy, remain in relationships where interpersonal violence is present, and experience poverty;

Whereas research shows that States that have more abortion restrictions are also States that have poorer maternal health outcomes;

Whereas the effects of the Dobbs decision were immediate and disastrous, with 12 States completely banning access to abortion care as of March 2025;

Whereas more than 25,000,000 women of reproductive age, plus more trans and nonbinary people, do not have access to abortion where they live;

Whereas restricting and banning access to abortion care—

(1) limits the ability of current and future providers to obtain necessary education and training in abortion care;

(2) exposes the remaining abortion providers and all staff to increased levels of harassment, violence, and politically motivated restrictions; and

(3) creates and increases the out-of-pocket costs and logistical burdens that patients face to get care to a level that is sometimes insurmountable, forcing patients to remain pregnant;

Whereas the 2022 Violence and Disruption Report of the National Abortion Federation found an alarming escalation in incidents of obstruction, vandalism, and trespassing at abortion clinics, with abortion providers reporting an

alarming rate of death threats and threats of harm, and documented 218 of such incidents in 2022;

Whereas Black, indigenous, and other providers and patients of color face heightened levels of threats, harassment, and violence as compared to their White counterparts;

Whereas the current administration has emboldened individuals and groups to continue to harass and threaten the ability of abortion providers and all staff to serve their patients;

Whereas the Dobbs decision has emboldened antiabortion individuals and groups to continue to harass providers and the patients they care for;

Whereas the Dobbs decision threatens the ability of abortion providers and all staff to serve their patients; and

Whereas, in the face of multifaceted attacks on their work, abortion providers remain an essential and valued part of their communities, providing high-quality, compassionate, and necessary health care, and courageously delivering that care despite pressures, restrictions, political interference, and violent threats to their personal safety: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) recognizes “Abortion Provider Appreciation
4 Day” to celebrate the courage, compassion, and
5 high-quality care that abortion providers and staff
6 offer to patients and their families across the United
7 States;

1 (2) lauds communities across the United States
2 who are proud to be home to abortion providers and
3 staff;

4 (3) affirms the commitment of Congress to en-
5 suring the safety of abortion providers, the ability of
6 abortion providers to continue providing the essen-
7 tial care their patients need, and the right of pa-
8 tients to access abortion care no matter where they
9 live, free from fear of violence, criminalization, or
10 stigma;

11 (4) condemns the decisions of the Supreme
12 Court of the United States, as well as the actions of
13 the current administration and antiabortion extrem-
14 ists, to limit and stigmatize abortion care, which has
15 had a devastating impact on abortion providers and
16 the communities they care for, threatening the work
17 and livelihoods of providers and staff, and worsening
18 the strain on providers who work in States where
19 abortion is still available; and

20 (5) declares a vision for a future liberated from
21 all abortion restrictions and bans, where everyone
22 has full access to the care they need without fear of
23 penalty or stigma, and affirms the commitment of
24 Congress to working toward that goal in partnership

- 1 with providers, patients, advocates, and their com-
- 2 munities.

