

1 [Commemoration of Roe v. Wade Anniversary]

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3 **Resolution commemorating the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade and commending the**
4 **work of pro-choice advocates and service providers in the City and County of San**
5 **Francisco.**

6
7 WHEREAS, January of 2013 will mark the 40th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade
8 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court that legalized abortion; and

9 WHEREAS, Access to legal and affordable family planning health care services has
10 been integral to expanding opportunities for success and satisfaction by women and girls in
11 the emotional, economic, educational and professional spheres, as well as for the men and
12 children in their lives and for communities as a whole; and

13 WHEREAS, Americans believe that women should be able to consult with their health
14 care provider, family and faith about personal, private medical decisions; and

15 WHEREAS, One in three American women will have an abortion by age 45, and 99%
16 of heterosexually active couples have used birth control; and

17 WHEREAS, Denied abortion care perpetuates poverty, while women of lower-income
18 are already five times more likely to have unintended pregnancies.

19 WHEREAS, The number of people infected with sexually transmitted infections in
20 California has steadily increased, reaffirming the importance of continued support for sexual
21 health and family planning education and resources. And

22 WHEREAS, States enacted twice as many anti-choice laws in 2011 as they did in any
23 recent previous year, including laws that force women who choose abortion care to undergo a
24 forced ultrasound procedure against their will even if their doctors do not recommend one;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, Many states are still shutting down crucial reproductive health and family
2 planning services for women creating greater barriers in distance, insulting waiting periods,
3 and psychological duress via biased counseling; and

4 WHEREAS, The U.S. House of Representatives voted in its most recent session to
5 defund Title X, the only federal program exclusively dedicated to family-planning and
6 reproductive-health care, and Planned Parenthood, jeopardizing access to birth control,
7 cancer screenings, and other basic health care for millions of Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, The U.S. House of Representatives also passed a bill that would allow
9 hospitals to refuse emergency abortion care to women who could die without it; and

10 WHEREAS, Most voters recently rejected threats to women's reproductive autonomy
11 and rights, including offensive remarks about rape; and

12 WHEREAS, The United Nations has declared family planning an essential human right;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, San Francisco was one of the first cities to pass an ordinance forbidding
15 crisis pregnancy centers, that do not provide or refer for abortion care, from continuing to use
16 deceptive advertising to take advantage of vulnerable pregnant women, and California passed
17 bills to unshackle pregnant women and allow more health-care providers to administer first
18 trimester abortions, and

19 WHEREAS, California and San Francisco have done an outstanding job of improving
20 the accessibility and affordability of reproductive health care, including through two federal
21 court blocks from decreasing Medi-Cal reimbursements to health care providers and
22 improving coverage through programs such as Family Pact; and

23 WHEREAS, San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee co-sponsored a resolution approved by the
24 U.S. Conference of Mayors in 2012 affirming the importance of women's reproductive rights;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, It is essential that the Bay Area lead the way in mobilizing visible and
2 vocal public support for reproductive health, rights and justice, which includes ready access to
3 legal and affordable family planning services and the full range of conditions required to
4 assure women's physical and emotional health and the enjoyment of human rights; and

5 WHEREAS, The Celebration of Women, Life and Liberty, scheduled for January 26,
6 2013, at 10 a.m. at Justin Herman Plaza, in San Francisco, organized by a broad coalition of
7 groups assembled by the Trust Women/Silver Ribbon Campaign, will begin the year with a
8 mobilization in recognition of these facts and in support of the principles stated above and will
9 include a display of related banners on Market Street,

10 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors
11 affirms the importance of reproductive health, rights and justice, and women's access to safe,
12 comprehensive and affordable reproductive health care including the right to safe and
13 accessible abortion services; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports
15 the work of pro-choice and reproductive justice advocates in commemorating and honoring
16 the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, this January of 2013.

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