RESOLUTION NO. 22-044

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA, AFFIRMING SUPPORT OF REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOMS

FINDINGS

WHEREAS, in 1973, the United States Supreme Court’s decision in Roe v. Wade ruled that the United States Constitution protects a pregnant person’s reproductive choices and liberties, namely the right to an abortion; and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2022, the United States Supreme Court in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Clinic overturned Roe v. Wade, holding there is no federal Constitutional right for a pregnant person to have an abortion; and

WHEREAS, the ability of women to safely access and receive reproductive and other healthcare services is become increasingly threatened across the United States and we must act now to demonstrate our commitment as a county to protecting reproductive freedom and healthcare rights; and

WHEREAS, all people have a right to comprehensive, evidence-based information about the full range of reproductive health care options, and should have access to comprehensive reproductive health care throughout their lives, regardless of income/race ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender, ability, immigration status, geographic circumstance, gender identify, and insurance coverage status; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pacific Grove actively works to advance racial equity through its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pacific Grove recognizes that restrictions, bans, and limitations to reproductive healthcare disproportionately impacts the reproductive freedom of populations that already face barriers to accessing care including — communities of color, people with low incomes, immigrants, and young people; and

WHEREAS, the state of California has worked to make reproductive freedom a right for all Californians, protecting a person’s rights to reproductive health and bodily autonomy, their privacy regarding reproductive decisions, their access to safe and legal abortion, and fundamentally, the right to choose whether or not to terminate a pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, access to reproductive care is central to an individual’s ability to retain autonomy over their body, their choice to have children or not have children, and their ability to parent the children they have in safe and sustainable communities; and

WHEREAS, abortion is health care and is a safe and common procedure, with one in four women obtaining an abortion by age 45; and
WHEREAS, safe and legal access to abortion care is fundamental to ensure that all women can achieve their full potential, to make informed decisions about their health.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE:

1. The City of Pacific Grove affirms its commitment to the human rights afforded to all women and persons who can become pregnant, regardless of socioeconomic, ethnic, racial, cultural or religious background, age or sexual orientation and to opposing any laws or regulations that pose a threat to reproductive freedom, reproductive rights and equitable access to reproductive health services.

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately following its passage and adoption by the City Council.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE this 17th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Peake, Mayor Pro Tem Amelio, Councilmembers Coletti, McAdams, Poduri, Smith, and Tomlinson.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.

APPROVED:

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BILL PEAKE, Mayor

ATTEST:

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SANDRA KANDELL, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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BRIAN A. PIERIK, City Attorney