



PRESS RELEASE

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San Diego: A Safe City for Reproductive Freedom and Access to Abortion

In an effort led by Councilmember Stephen Whitburn, the San Diego City Council voted 8-0 to declare that San Diego is a safe city for reproductive freedom and access to abortion.

SAN DIEGO – Today, the San Diego City Council voted 8-0 on a [Resolution Declaring San Diego a Safe City for Reproductive Freedom and Access to Abortion](#). The resolution was brought forward by Councilmember Stephen Whitburn and joined by Council President Pro Tem Monica Montgomery Steppe, Councilmember Jennifer Campbell, and Councilmember Marni von Wilpert.

While abortions will continue to be legal in California should the Supreme Court hand down a ruling that would end the constitutional right to abortion by overturning *Roe v. Wade*, as the second-largest city in the state and one of the 10 largest cities in the country, the City of San Diego has the responsibility to show that we are a safe city where every citizen and visitor will have reproductive freedom and access to abortion.

“No matter what happens with the Supreme Court ruling, no matter who you are or where you come from, no matter the color of your skin or your socioeconomic status, I want everyone to know that you are welcome in the City of San Diego to exercise your reproductive rights,” said councilmember Stephen Whitburn. **“I want all San Diegans who are scared and frustrated about this potential ruling to know that you have members of this city council and a Mayor that have your back, and we will not back down.”**

Council President Pro Tem Monica Montgomery Steppe, who represents San Diego’s Fourth Council District, said:

“Access to abortion care is an imperative service along the reproductive health spectrum, and loss of this access can significantly impact the quality of life for so many women--especially women of color. As a champion for equity in our city, I stand with my colleagues in declaring San Diego as a safe space that reclaims dignity and reestablishes the right of autonomy and choice over our bodies.”

Councilmember Jennifer Campbell, who represents San Diego’s Second Council District, said:

“*Roe v. Wade* protects people’s liberties to have the right to an abortion. The landmark decision by the U.S. Supreme Court allows people, the right to an abortion without government interference. As a woman, and as a family physician, I value people’s rights and I value people’s right to choose. Today’s San Diego City Council Resolution shows that San Diego stands in solidarity with *Roe v. Wade* and with people’s right to choose.”

Councilmember Marni von Wilpert, who represents San Diego’s Fifth Council District, said:

“Today, I am proud to stand with my colleagues to announce our commitment to fight for quality, safe, reproductive healthcare and family planning services for anyone who needs it. We are bringing forth this resolution to send a message- that the City of San Diego will not stand for an assault on women’s rights.”

It is believed that San Diego is the first city in the nation to adopt a resolution declaring a safe city for reproductive freedom and access to abortion.

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