

State of Vermont

House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

House Resolution

H.R. 4

House resolution commemorating the 38th anniversary of Roe v Wade and reaffirming support for its fundamental holding and principles

Offered by: Representatives Weston of Burlington, Ancel of Calais, Aswad of Burlington, Bartholomew of Hartland, Bohi of Hartford, Botzow of Pownal, Burke of Brattleboro, Buxton of Royalton, Campion of Bennington, Cheney of Norwich, Clarkson of Woodstock, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Courcelle of Rutland City, Dakin of Chester, Davis of Washington, Deen of Westminster, Donovan of Burlington, Edwards of Brattleboro, Evans of Essex, Fisher of Lincoln, Font-Russell of Rutland City, Frank of Underhill, French of Shrewsbury, French of Randolph, Grad of Moretown, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Heath of Westford, Hooper of Montpelier, Jerman of Essex, Jewett of Ripton, Johnson of South Hero, Keenan of St. Albans City, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Klein of East Montpelier, Kupersmith of South Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Larson of Burlington, Lenes of Shelburne, Leriche of Hardwick, Lippert of Hinesburg, Lorber of Burlington, Macaig of Williston, Malcolm of Pawlet, Manwaring of Wilmington, Marek of Newfane, Martin of Springfield, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Mitchell of Barnard, Mook of Bennington, Moran of Wardsboro, Mrowicki of Putney, Nuovo of Middlebury, O'Brien of Richmond, Olsen of Jamaica, Partridge of Windham, Pearson of Burlington, Poirier of Barre City, Pugh of South Burlington, Ralston of Middlebury, Ram of Burlington, Shand of Weathersfield, Sharpe of Bristol, Spengler of Colchester, Stuart of Brattleboro, Taylor of Barre City, Till of Jericho, Toll of Danville, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Webb of Shelburne, Wilson of Manchester and Wizowaty of Burlington

Whereas, on January 22, 1973, in a landmark decision, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its historic ruling in Roe v Wade, affirming that women, not politicians, should make the most personal decision of when or whether to have children, and

Whereas, the constitutional right to abortion as embodied in Roe v Wade recognizes women's right to exercise reproductive choice, saves women's lives, and strengthens families, and

Whereas, prior to the Roe v Wade decision, thousands of American women died every year as a result of complications from unsafe and illegal abortions, and an untold number of women suffered grievous injuries, a situation that created a serious public health problem that has virtually been eliminated by providing access to safe and legal abortion, and

Whereas, it is a public health goal of the state of Vermont to protect and enhance the health of all Vermonters, including women of all ages, and to strengthen families by encouraging and promoting access to comprehensive family planning services, and

Whereas, violence against providers and restrictions against abortion endanger the lives of women and men, and have continued to erode access to abortion, and

Whereas, safe, legal, and accessible abortion services are still under attack, especially for women for whom English is a second language or who do not speak English at all, poor women, rural women, and women who are minors, and

Whereas, it is critical for the economic health of our country and the personal health and happiness of American women that the right of women and their families to make their own personal medical decisions about reproduction and gynecological issues be vigilantly preserved and protected, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That this legislative body reaffirms the right of every Vermont woman to privacy, autonomy, and safety in making personal decisions regarding reproduction and family planning, and be it further

Resolved: That the Clerk of the House be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Congressional Delegation.

Shapleigh Smith, Jr.
Speaker of the House

Attested to:

Donald G. Milne
Clerk, House of Representatives