

# Supporting Women's Reproductive Rights

July 2022

WHEREAS, in 1969, more than three years before the United States Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade*, the California Supreme Court recognized that the fundamental right of women to choose whether to bear children is protected by the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, the people of California recognized the significance of a woman's right to choose by amending the California Constitution to enshrine a right to privacy; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, the State of California enacted the Reproductive Privacy Act, which provides that every individual possesses a fundamental right to privacy with respect to reproductive decisions, including: (A) The fundamental right to choose or refuse birth control, and (B) The fundamental right to choose to bear children or obtain an abortion; and

WHEREAS, the Reproductive Privacy Act provides that the State shall not deny or interfere with woman's fundamental right to choose to bear a child or obtain an abortion prior to viability of the fetus or when necessary to protect her life and health, which prevents the State from interfering with a woman's right to choose whether or not to carry a pregnancy to term; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom issued the California Proclamation on Reproductive Freedom to educate Californians on their reproductive rights under the State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2022, the Governor and top State legislative leaders announced plans to add abortion protections to the State's Constitution; 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, overturning *Roe* will greatly impact marginalized groups who already face barriers accessing reproductive healthcare services, particularly low-income women and women of color, causing further inequity; and

WHEREAS, women with access to reproductive health services are more likely to finish college, pursue higher education, participate for a longer period in the labor force, and achieve higher-

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paying occupations; and

WHEREAS, prohibitions on the right to exercise reproductive freedoms are harmful to the public health and safety of all people, and are contrary to the values of equity and justice that the people of the City of Martinez and the Constitution of California seek to uphold; and

WHEREAS, the City of Martinez will continue to uphold everyone's right to equality and freedom of choice, including women's reproductive rights;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Rob Schroder, Mayor of the City of Martinez, on behalf of the Martinez City Council, do hereby urge all citizens to support women's reproductive rights and continue to recognize a women's right to make her own reproductive health care decisions, free from government interference.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Martinez to be affixed hereto this 20th day of July, 2022.

Rob Schroder, Mayor