CITY COUNCIL ATLANTA, GEORGIA

22-R-3711

****A RESOLUTION BY COUNCILMEMBERS LILIANA BAKHTIARI, AMIR FAROKHI, MICHAEL JULIAN BOND, MATT WESTMORELAND, MARY NORWOOD, BYRON D. AMOS, JASON DOZIER, DUSTIN HILLIS, JASON H. WINSTON, ALEX WAN AND KEISHA SEAN WAITES AS SUBSTITUTED BY PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REQUESTING THAT NO CITY FUNDS BE UTILIZED TO RECORD AND/OR INVESTIGATE REPORTS OF ABORTION CARE AND REQUEST THAT THE ATLANTA POLICE DEPARTMENT PLACE REPORTS OF ABORTION-RELATED CARE AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRIORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.(FAVORABLE BY PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE 6/13/22)

WHEREAS, according to the National Institute of Reproductive Health, one in four women in the United States will have an abortion by the time they are 45 years old; and

WHEREAS, since Roe V. Wade was decided in 1973, several states have worked to enact restrictions to accessing abortion, causing widespread clinic closure, and significant barriers to accessing abortion care; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly passed an anti-abortion law (HB 481) which was signed into law in 2019; and

WHEREAS, this bill was ruled unconstitutional due to the Roe V. Wade decision; and

WHEREAS, there is speculation that the Supreme Court of the United States will overturn the 1973 landmark ruling of Roe V. Wade; and

WHEREAS, limiting the access to abortions and abortion care have disproportionately affected low income, immigrant and women of color; and

WHEREAS, eliminating legal access to abortion has been empirically proven to dramatically increase the risk of death, bodily injury, and infertility, especially within low-income communities and communities of color; and

WHEREAS, low-income women are more than five times as likely than affluent women to experience an unintended pregnancy, which has significant implications for social mobility given that unplanned childbearing is associated with higher rates of poverty, less family stability, and worse outcomes for children, according to a Brookings Center on Children and Families (CCF) paper; and

WHEREAS, several states, including the state of Georgia is ready to outlaw abortion, most are not willing to give new babies and their families the educational, medical, or financial support they need to lead a healthy life and that could leave tens of thousands of future children unnecessarily disadvantaged and living in poverty; and

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WHEREAS, the Atlanta City Council supports a women's choice to choose and opposes the use of any City funds to record and or investigate reports of abortion care; and

WHEREAS, the right to privacy should protect doctors, patients and all others involved with medical treatment from any criminal investigation related to decisions made within the healthcare provider-patient relationship, including abortion, as long as those decisions occur without coercion, force or negligence; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta City Council has a responsibility to protect its residents from any violation of their human rights and any criminalization of the free exercise thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA that the Atlanta City Council hereby requests City funds shall be used to record and/or investigate reports of abortion care and the Atlanta Police Department is requested to place reports of abortion related care at the lowest possible priority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Atlanta City Council stands with those who condemn any actions intended to abrogate the fundamental liberties of women and affirms its commitment to protecting its residents' right to make reproductive health decisions for themselves, including abortion care.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with this Resolution, the Atlanta City Council hereby requests that except to the extent otherwise required by state or federal law, city funds will not be used to:

- · Store or catalog any report of abortion, miscarriage, or other conduct that could be prosecuted under state laws criminalizing reproductive care;
- Provide information to any other governmental body or agency about any abortion, miscarriage, or other conduct that could be prosecuted under state laws criminalizing reproductive healthcare, unless such information is provided to defend the patient's right to abortion care or the healthcare provider's right to provide that care; and
- Conduct surveillance or collect data or other information related to any individual, organization, location vehicle, action, financial record or internet activity for the purpose of determining whether an abortion has occurred, except for the collection of aggregated data without personally identifying information or personal health information for purposes unrelated to criminal investigation, enforcement or prosecution.

22-R-3711 Page 2 of 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the intention of the Atlanta City Council that this request does not apply in cases where coercion or force is used against the pregnant person, or in cases involving conduct criminally negligent to the health of the pregnant person seeking care.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Atlanta City Council requests that the Atlanta Police Department ensure that the investigation or support for the prosecution of any allegation, charge, or information relating to the outcome of a given pregnancy, including abortion and abortion-related care, or any party thereto will be the lowest priority for enforcement and the use or assignment of resources and personnel, except in cases where coercion or force is used against the pregnant person, or conduct criminally negligent to the health of the pregnant person seeking care, or in cases where the abortion, miscarriage, or reproductive healthcare is not the crime being investigated but as evidence of another crime, such as sexual assault.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby waived to the extent of the conflict.

Last Updated: 06/15/22

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SPONSOR SIGNATURES



CITY COUNCIL ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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Workflow List:

Atlanta City Council	Completed	06/06/2022 1:00 PM
Community Development/Human Services Committee	Completed	06/14/2022 1:30 PM
Public Safety & Legal Administration Committee	Completed	06/13/2022 2:00 PM
Atlanta City Council	Pending	06/21/2022 1:00 PM

HISTORY:

06/06/22 Atlanta City Council REFERRED WITHOUT OBJECTION

REFERRED TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WITHOUT OBJECTION

RESULT:	REFERRED WITHOUT OBJECTION	Next: 6/13/2022 2:00 PM
06/13/22	Public Safety & Legal Administration Committee	FAVORABLE ON
SUBSTITUTE		

RESULT: FAVORABLE ON SUBSTITUTE [UNANIMOUS] Next: 6/21/2022 1:00 PM

MOVER: Dustin Hillis, Chair, District 9
SECONDER: Byron D Amos, District 3

AYES: Hillis, Amos, Bond, Boone, Norwood, Waites

ABSENT: Marci Collier Overstreet

06/14/22 Community Development/Human Services Committee FAVORABLE

RESULT: FAVORABLE [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Liliana Bakhtiari, District 5
SECONDER: Dustin Hillis, District 9

AYES: Dozier, Amos, Bakhtiari, Bond, Hillis, Westmoreland, Winston

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Certified by Presiding Officer	Certified by Clerk	
Mayor's Action		
See Authentication Page Attachment		