

1 **RESOLUTION NO.**

2 **WHEREAS**, on May 15, 2019, the governor of Alabama signed into law
3 House Bill 314, which is considered the most restrictive abortion law in the country;
4 and

5 **WHEREAS**, Alabama is one of a number of states, including Missouri, that
6 have passed legislation this year to advance an organized effort to further erode
7 abortion rights; and

8 **WHEREAS**, economic boycotts of businesses or entities in response to
9 constitutional and human rights violations have been shown to produce measures of
10 success in the U.S., most notably the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott, which helped
11 launch the civil rights movement; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in 2010, the Austin City Council adopted Resolution No.
13 20100513-030, which halted, with some exceptions, all business-related travel by
14 city employees to Arizona in response to the state's inhumane law regarding
15 immigration; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in 2017, the Council adopted the "Abortion is Healthcare"
17 resolution (Resolution No. 20170126-045), affirming that a woman's right to make
18 the decision to access safe, legal, and affordable abortion is an essential component
19 to healthcare; and

20 **WHEREAS**, abortion bans have historically had a disproportionate impact
21 on low-income populations, particularly people of color and LGBTQ individuals;
22 and

23 **WHEREAS**, it's uncertain what impact a City of Austin boycott relating to
24 staff business travel would have on the State of Alabama, which, according to the
25 U.S. Census Bureau is one of the top ten poorest states in the nation; **NOW,**
26 **THEREFORE,**

27 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

28 The City Manager is directed to assess what the impacts would be and who
29 would be adversely affected should Austin pass legislation to halt staff business
30 travel to Alabama.

31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

32 The City Manager is directed to explore other ways to boycott Alabama
33 without adversely affecting service industry employees or low-income individuals.

34 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

35 The City Manager is directed to identify options for proceeding with
36 boycotting, or encouraging individuals to boycott, companies that rank among the
37 top political donors to the Alabama governor and legislators who voted for the anti-
38 abortion bill.

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

40 The City Manager is directed to report back to Council with the requested
41 information and recommendations by August 28, 2019.

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43 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

44 The City Council strongly opposes this year's string of anti-abortion bills that
45 have passed or are pending in the states of Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Ohio,
46 Missouri, Arkansas, Utah, and Texas, in addition to Alabama, the first state to pass
47 an outright ban on abortion.

48 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

49 The City Council strongly supports the Women's Health Protection Act
50 pending in Congress.

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53 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2019

ATTEST: _____

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Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk

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