



23 such as transportation, lodging, and case management, due to the many restrictions passed  
24 in Texas; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the City declared that Abortion is Healthcare in 2017 (Resolution No.  
26 20170126-045) and provided support for public funding for abortion through Rosie's  
27 Resolution in 2018 (Resolution No. 20181004-035); and

28 **WHEREAS**, Abortion Care Network found that the number of independent  
29 abortion clinics in the United States has declined by a third since 2012, and the recent rule  
30 changes of Title X of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300, et seq.) has further  
31 threatened access to abortion referrals and abortion care; and

32 **WHEREAS**, this shortage of abortion clinics creates long wait lists for  
33 appointments, forces some patients to travel hundreds of miles to get care, increases the  
34 out-of-pocket costs and logistical burdens experienced by patients wanting to receive care,  
35 and exposes remaining clinics to increased levels of harassment and politically-motivated  
36 restrictions; and

37 **WHEREAS**, the National Abortion Federation's 2018 statistics on violence and  
38 disruption found an alarming escalation in incidences of obstruction, vandalism, and  
39 trespassing at abortion clinics; and

40 **WHEREAS**, abortion providers courageously provide care in the face of  
41 restrictions, political interference, and threats to their personal safety; and

42 **WHEREAS**, the current federal administration's hostile stance on abortion  
43 reproductive health, and sexual rights has emboldened many states to consider further

44 restrictive policies, including bans on abortion or trigger laws which would ban abortion  
45 outright if *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (U.S. 1973) is overturned; and

46 **WHEREAS**, in recent months, at the behest of anti-abortion activists, several Texas  
47 municipalities have passed ordinances that claim to ban abortion, despite the fact that the  
48 right to access abortion remains protected by the United States Constitution; and

49 **WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court of the United States now contains a majority of  
50 Justices who may not interpret the Constitution to provide protection for the right to end  
51 a pregnancy and may overturn or severely limit *Roe v. Wade*, which includes the threat of  
52 patients and abortion providers being arrested and sent to jail; and

53 **WHEREAS**, the currently presiding Justices may not respect the rule of law and  
54 the Supreme Court's precedent, and may uphold a Louisiana law (Section A(2)(a) of Act  
55 Number 620) identical to a Texas law (H.B. 2 , 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature) that was found  
56 unconstitutional in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* (136 S.Ct. 2292 (U.S. 2016));  
57 and

58 **WHEREAS**, on March 10, 1993, abortion provider Dr. David Gunn was shot and  
59 killed by an anti-abortion extremist; and

60 **WHEREAS**, to honor his memory, March 10<sup>th</sup> of every year has since been  
61 established as a day to show appreciation for and to celebrate the courage and compassion  
62 of abortion providers and the high-quality care they provide; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

63

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

65 Council hereby proclaims March 10, 2020 as Abortion Providers' Appreciation Day  
66 to honor Dr. Gunn's memory and to celebrate the courage and compassion of abortion  
67 providers and the high-quality care they provide, especially Austin Women's Health  
68 Center, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, and Whole Woman's Health of Austin.

69

70 **ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk

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DRAFT