

1 **RESOLUTION NO.**

2 **WHEREAS**, our climate crisis is worsening daily, resulting in rising  
3 temperatures that fuel natural disasters, weather extremes, food and water  
4 insecurity, rising sea levels, a melting Arctic, devastation to the oceans and forests,  
5 and death of humans and ecosystems; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the United States is the second greatest contributor to  
7 greenhouse gas emissions, and power plants generate 25% of its greenhouse gas  
8 emissions; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as  
10 granted by Congress through the Clean Air Act, is charged with creating  
11 regulations to address pollutants that destroy our environment at power plants, and  
12 science has well established that greenhouse gas emissions are destroying our  
13 environment, and the Supreme Court’s opinion in *West Virginia v. Environmental*  
14 *Protection Agency* strips the EPA of its ability to do this job; and

15 **WHEREAS**, fundamental American values include individual freedom, and  
16 the right to decide one’s own future, and nothing is more significant to individual  
17 rights than the right to decide when and whether to have children; and

18 **WHEREAS**, *Roe v. Wade* balanced the rights of women who are not able or  
19 willing to bring a child into the world, due to health reasons, psychological damage  
20 (such as victims of rape and incest), financial reasons, such as not being able to  
21 afford (another) child – with the interests of the unborn; and

22 **WHEREAS**, *Roe v. Wade* protected women, who were unjustly denied the  
23 right to vote until one hundred and one years ago, from over-reaching by states,  
24 and allowed women to participate fully and equally in society; and

25           **WHEREAS**, rape and incest cause trauma, and forced birth potentially  
26 causes further trauma; and

27           **WHEREAS**, the impact of both climate change and denial of choice in  
28 personal reproductive health issues falls disproportionately on persons in poverty;  
29 and

30           **WHEREAS**, the City is committed to combatting climate change, as  
31 evidenced in its Climate Equity Plan as well as numerous resolutions and planning  
32 documents; and

33           **WHEREAS**, the City is committed to women’s reproductive health, as  
34 evidenced over many years and policies; and

35           **WHEREAS**, the rulings in *West Virginia v. Environmental Protection*  
36 *Agency* and *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* are both direct  
37 assaults on the health, safety, and welfare of the planet and its people, especially  
38 those forced to give birth; **NOW, THEREFORE:**

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

40           The City Council of Austin condemns the Supreme Court’s rulings in *West*  
41 *Virginia v. EPA* and *Dobbs v. Jackson*, and the Court’s attacks on American  
42 freedom, health, and safety.

43 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF**  
44 **AUSTIN:**

45           City Council calls on the Environmental Protection Agency to continue to  
46 regulate all pollutants, including carbon emissions, at power plants; and

47 City Council calls on Congress and all State Legislatures to immediately  
48 pass national and local laws requiring plant emission reductions by any means  
49 possible, including shifting to other, readily available power production  
50 technologies; and

51 City Council calls on the United States Government to enforce the laws  
52 which protect persons seeking abortion, as iterated in President Biden’s recent  
53 executive orders; and

54 City Council calls on the Texas Legislature and the United States Congress  
55 to immediately put forth legislation that supports: healthy and positive life  
56 outcomes for children and families, including but not limited to access to health  
57 care during pregnancy and the first 12 months after birth for both those giving birth  
58 and their children; creation of a national support system providing adoption  
59 services; programs to increase the quality and funding for Child Protective  
60 Services; and increasing health programs for school children such as healthy food  
61 programs; and

62 The City Manager is directed to send copies of this resolution to the  
63 Judiciary Committee for the United States House of Representatives and United  
64 States Senate, as those bodies play a role in the selection of members of the federal  
65 judiciary, including the United States Supreme Court, and to the Texas delegations  
66 in the United States Congress and to the President of the United States, in formal  
67 notice of this Council’s carefully considered actions today.

68  
69  
70 **ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

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

71 Myrna Rios  
72 City Clerk