



Resolution Defending Reproductive Rights in the Commonwealth of Virginia

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Whereas, the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson* has enabled states to pass laws that infringe upon a person's bodily autonomy and privacy concerning reproductive health.

Whereas, the current Governor of Virginia has stated he believes life begins at conception and vowed to sign "any bill ... to protect life"[1] that reaches his desk.

Whereas, Abortion providers have faced harassment and threat of legal action[2]; women who seek abortion across state lines, and doctors who provide those abortions may face legal consequences for providing essential medical services.

Whereas, the Alexandria Democratic Committee supports a person's right to have a safe, legal abortion, and the right to privacy between a doctor and their patient. All citizens should be free to decide what is best for them and their families, including when to end a pregnancy. That infringing upon this right threatens the health and independence of all Americans.

Whereas, Vice President Kamala Harris convened more than 20 Virginia state legislators and advocates fighting on the frontlines to protect reproductive rights on July 23, 2022, in Richmond, Virginia [3]. During her visit, the Vice President shared actions the Administration is taking to defend abortion access and she spoke about the importance of building a movement to protect reproductive rights.

Therefore, Be It Resolved that

1. We, the Alexandria Democratic Committee, will answer the Biden/Harris administration's call to build a movement to defend access to abortion in our Commonwealth.
2. The ADC calls upon our General Assembly members representing Alexandria to:
 - a. Oppose any legislation infringing upon Virginians' reproductive freedom,
 - b. Pursue a state constitutional amendment to protect the right to an abortion, and

- c. Support legislation protecting abortion care providers from harassment and intimidation.
3. The ADC supports and encourages the formation of an Alexandria Democratic Women's Caucus to coordinate with other organizations to participate in political demonstrations during the General Assembly's January legislative session to support reproductive freedom.

References:

1. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2022/06/29/youngkin-abortion-life-conception/>
2. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/07/27/abortion-doctor-girl-rape-caitlin-bernard-investigation/>
3. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/07/23/readout-of-vice-president-kamala-harriss-meeting-with-virginia-state-legislators-on-reproductive-rights/>