

**First Regular Session
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STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R17-0886.01 Gwynne Middleton x4340

HR17-1005

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Herod and Salazar,

House Committees

HOUSE RESOLUTION 17-1005

101 **CONCERNING ENSURING ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE.**

1 WHEREAS, Colorado has always been committed to a quality
2 health care system and to creating policies that meet the health needs of
3 women and families, including affordable reproductive health services;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Colorado was the first state to allow safe, legal
6 abortion on a bipartisan basis in 1967; and

7 WHEREAS, The American College of Obstetricians and
8 Gynecologists has stated that "[s]afe, legal abortion is a necessary
9 component of women's health care", and health providers and
10 associations affirm that good access to reproductive health care deeply
11 and positively impacts women's lives and futures; and

12 WHEREAS, Reproductive health care is both safe and common.
13 More than 90% of women have used contraception, about three in ten
14 women will have an abortion in her lifetime, and more than half of
15 women will have a child at some point in their lives.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 WHEREAS, People may disagree with the decision to seek an
2 abortion, but it is a decision that each person should make for themselves
3 with the counsel of their health providers, their families, and their faiths;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Rates of maternal mortality are decreasing around the
6 world, but increasing in the United States for women of color who face
7 an alarming and disparate rate of pregnancy complications and maternal
8 mortality; and

9 WHEREAS, Restrictions on the availability of reproductive health
10 care and limits on health coverage, such as policies denying insurance
11 coverage for reproductive health services, have a disparate impact on
12 low-income women and women of color and their families; and

13 WHEREAS, Obstacles to obtaining the best method of
14 contraception for each person's unique health and life circumstances
15 remain a barrier to many; and

16 WHEREAS, Low-income women and women of color face a
17 higher rate of unintended pregnancy, so ensuring access to contraception
18 is a critical part of helping to address health disparities in marginalized
19 communities; and

20 WHEREAS, An inability or difficulty to conceive is not only
21 emotionally difficult for people looking to start a family but can be
22 prohibitively expensive, so we must do more to help people seeking to
23 build their families, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, There is a continued need to address inequities in
26 health care access and ensure culturally and linguistically appropriate
27 training of health providers; now, therefore,

28 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-first*
29 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

30 That we, the members of the Colorado House of Representatives,
31 find that:

32 (1) Colorado continues to be a state where all individuals' health
33 remains a top priority, and Coloradans resist attempts to undermine the

1 right to access reproductive health care;

2 (2) Access to comprehensive and affordable reproductive health
3 care is critical to ensure that people have the information and services to
4 prevent unintended pregnancies, the support to have healthy pregnancies
5 and become parents when they are ready, and the ability to raise their
6 children in a safe and healthy environment and to be able to care for their
7 families with dignity;

8 (3) State, county, and city health departments shall promote
9 policies to ensure access to a full range of reproductive health care,
10 including abortion, and eliminate disparities that prevent low-income
11 women and women of color from seeking safe, high-quality care;

12 (4) Both public and private health insurance should cover the full
13 range of reproductive health care, including abortion;

14 (5) Facilities and professionals providing reproductive health
15 services shall not be subjected to regulations that do not have a medical
16 benefit and that are more burdensome than those imposed on other
17 facilities or health care professionals that provide medically comparable
18 procedures. Provision of services should be based on the best medical
19 practices as developed by medical experts and supported by medical
20 evidence.

21 (6) All qualified health care professionals shall be able to provide
22 the full range of reproductive health care, including abortion, and have
23 access to appropriate medical training.

24 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Resolution be sent to
25 President Donald J. Trump; Vice President Mike Pence; Paul Ryan,
26 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; Orrin Hatch,
27 President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate; Governor John W.
28 Hickenlooper; Dr. Larry Wolk, Executive Director, Colorado Department
29 of Public Health and Environment; and the members of Colorado's
30 Congressional Delegation.