

Continuing Our Commitment to Gender Justice and Equity and Reproductive Health Care

RESOLUTION NO. 5 OREGON AFSCME COUNCIL 75 CONVENTION

WHEREAS:

The U.S. Supreme Court has overturned the nearly 50-year-old, landmark Roe v. Wade decision in which the majority opinion held that there is a fundamental right to choose whether to continue a pregnancy without excessive government interference, affirming the constitutional right to privacy, which the court had relied upon in previous decisions; and

WHEREAS:

Access to reproductive health care gives women and other people who can become pregnant the power to make decisions regarding their work lives, their futures and the economic security of their families because the decision about when and whether to bear children is fundamental to the ability to pursue self-sustaining work; and

WHEREAS:

The gender wage gap and inadequate access to reproductive healthcare impacts people who become pregnant and women's economic freedom, and

WHEREAS:

In the past two **Federal** legislative sessions, Congress has failed to prioritize legislation that would permanently codify the Equal Rights Amendment into law and because of this, women are not protected by the constitutional provision guaranteeing equal treatment regardless of **sex and** gender;

WHEREAS:

Oregon AFSCME recognizes that systems which perpetuate inequality anywhere are a threat to **workers and** unions everywhere, serving as a foothold through which our hard-won collective bargaining gains can be undermined, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that Oregon AFSCME will continue to support the fundamental right of all individuals to access appropriate reproductive health care, effective birth control and emergency contraception; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

that Oregon AFSCME staunchly reaffirms our commitment to equitability in access to, and equality in applicability of, all its policies and practices without regard to members sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, race, color, creed, national origin, marital or familial status, religion, age, or disability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

that Oregon AFSCME will use our collective voice and resources to affirmatively further the cause of ensuring a guarantee of equal rights and protections in our collective bargaining agreements and at the State and Federal level.

Submitted By: Oregon AFSCME Council 75 Executive Committee