

House Concurrent Resolution No. 118

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE GARDNER.

6867H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, Missouri recognizes that reproductive freedom, including access to safe and
2 legal abortion, is vital to a woman's health, economic security, and ability to participate equally
3 in society; and

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5 **WHEREAS**, Missouri recognizes the anniversary of the United States Supreme Court
6 decision, *Roe v. Wade*, decided on January 22, 1973, affirming that the United States
7 Constitution safeguards a woman's right to make her own medical decisions without the
8 interference of politicians; and

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10 **WHEREAS**, a woman's right to access safe, legal abortion without burdensome
11 restrictions imposed by a state is at stake in the pending United States Supreme Court case,
12 *Whole Woman's Health, et al. v. Cole, et al.*; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, since the 2010 midterm elections, states have adopted a staggering 288
15 abortion restrictions; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, relentless state and federal attacks on the right to access abortion continue
18 across the country and in this state; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, for decades, abortion providers and patients have been subjected to
21 intimidation, threats, and violence; and

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23 **WHEREAS**, since 1977:

24 (1) Nearly 7,000 violent acts against abortion providers have been reported, including
25 bombings, acts of arson, death threats, acts of kidnapping, and assaults;

26 (2) More than 190,000 acts of disruption against abortion providers have been reported,
27 including bomb threats and harassing calls;

28 (3) Since 1993, there have been 11 murders and numerous attempted murders of
29 individuals associated with abortion care; most recently on November 27, 2015, an attack by a
30 gunman at a Planned Parenthood health center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in which 3 people
31 were killed and 9 people were injured; and

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33 **WHEREAS**, efforts to restrict access to abortion, including extreme and demonizing
34 rhetoric, contribute to a hostile climate that leads to violence, threats, and harassment of health
35 care providers and patients; and

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37 **WHEREAS**, one in three women will need an abortion in her lifetime, and as such, safe,
38 legal, and accessible abortion is an essential component of comprehensive reproductive health
39 care; and

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41 **WHEREAS**, abortion is one of the safest medical procedures performed in the United
42 States with over a 99% safety record; and

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44 **WHEREAS**, elected officials must stand up to protect access to comprehensive health
45 care in this state:

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47 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
48 Representatives of the Ninety-eighth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
49 concurring therein, hereby:

50 (1) Denounce violence toward abortion providers and their patients;

51 (2) Denounce efforts to undermine *Roe* by eliminating access to abortion in Missouri and
52 throughout the country;

53 (3) Affirm that all people have the right to access reproductive health care services
54 without fear of violence, intimidation, or harassment; and

55 (4) Affirm the right to access health care without interference in this state, including safe
56 and legal abortion.

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