

**Introduced by Senator Jackson**

**(Coauthors: Senators Beall, Block, Calderon, Corbett, De León, DeSaulnier, Evans, Galgiani, Hancock, Hernandez, Hill, Lara, Leno, Lieu, Liu, Monning, Padilla, Pavley, Price, Roth, Rubio, Steinberg, Wolk, Wright, and Yee)**

January 14, 2013

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Senate Resolution No. 10—Relative to Roe v. Wade.

1 WHEREAS, January 22, 2013, marks the 40th anniversary of  
2 the United States Supreme Court’s landmark decision in Roe v.  
3 Wade, which held that every woman has a fundamental right to  
4 control her own reproductive decisions and decide whether to end  
5 or continue a pregnancy, and is an occasion that deserves  
6 celebration; and

7 WHEREAS, The 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, making access  
8 to abortion safe and legal, has greatly improved the health of  
9 women and families; and

10 WHEREAS, Roe v. Wade has been the cornerstone of women’s  
11 remarkable strides toward equality in the past four decades, and  
12 reproductive freedom is critical to a woman’s ability to participate  
13 fully in the social, political, and economic life of the community;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, California is committed to protecting public health  
16 and the welfare of all its residents, and recognizes that access to  
17 reproductive health services, including family planning and prenatal  
18 care, supports individuals and their families by ensuring that babies  
19 are planned, wanted, and healthy; and

1 WHEREAS, The public policy of California, as expressed in  
2 the Reproductive Privacy Act, and protected by the California  
3 Constitution’s express right to privacy, is that each woman has the  
4 fundamental right to make decisions regarding her reproductive  
5 health; and

6 WHEREAS, California has a pioneering history in supporting  
7 reproductive rights, including the California Supreme Court’s 1969  
8 decision in *People v. Belous*, recognizing that a woman’s decision  
9 to end a pregnancy is protected by her constitutional right to  
10 privacy, four years prior to the United States Supreme Court’s  
11 decision in *Roe v. Wade*; and

12 WHEREAS, In a democracy, people may have differing views  
13 about abortion, but most ~~people~~ *Californians* recognize that only  
14 a pregnant woman can know, and should be entitled to decide,  
15 what option is best for herself and her family; and

16 WHEREAS, Over 75 percent of Californians oppose efforts to  
17 overturn *Roe v. Wade*, which ~~would~~ *could* create a public health  
18 crisis ~~by once again making~~ *if individual states made* abortion  
19 illegal and unsafe; and

20 WHEREAS, The 2012 elections sent a powerful and  
21 unmistakable message to Members of Congress and state  
22 legislatures that women do not want politics or politicians to  
23 interfere with their personal medical decisions; and

24 WHEREAS, Violence against abortion providers and laws that  
25 create barriers to abortion endanger a woman’s health; now,  
26 therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That on the  
28 40th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the Senate of the State of  
29 California recognizes the critical importance of continued access  
30 to safe and legal abortion and urges the President of the United  
31 States and the Congress to protect and uphold the intent and  
32 substance of the 1973 United States Supreme Court decision in  
33 *Roe v. Wade*; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
35 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
36 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the  
37 Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative

- 1 from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the
- 2 author for appropriate distribution.

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