

AMENDED IN SENATE JANUARY 6, 2016

**Senate Joint Resolution**

**No. 19**

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**Introduced by Senator Jackson**

(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Atkins and Cristina Garcia)

August 26, 2015

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Senate Joint Resolution No. 19—Relative to ~~Planned Parenthood~~.  
*women's reproductive health.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 19, as amended, Jackson. ~~Planned Parenthood: funding.~~ *Women's reproductive health.*

This measure would request the President and the Congress of the United States to express their support for access to comprehensive reproductive health care, *including the services* provided by ~~Planned Parenthood and Parenthood~~, and to oppose efforts to eliminate federal funding for Planned Parenthood.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1     *WHEREAS, January 22, 2016, marks the anniversary of the*  
2     *United States Supreme Court's landmark decision in Roe v. Wade,*  
3     *which held that every woman has a fundamental right to control*  
4     *her own reproductive decisions and decide whether to end or*  
5     *continue a pregnancy, and is an occasion that deserves*  
6     *recognition; and*  
7     *WHEREAS, The 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, making access to*  
8     *abortion safe and legal, has greatly improved the health of women*  
9     *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*

1 *reproductive freedom is critical to a woman’s ability to participate*  
2 *fully in the social, political, and economic life of the community;*  
3 *and*

4 *WHEREAS, California is committed to protecting the public*  
5 *health and welfare of all its residents, and recognizes that access*  
6 *to reproductive health services, including family planning and*  
7 *prenatal care, supports individuals and their families by ensuring*  
8 *that babies are planned, wanted, and healthy; and*

9 *WHEREAS, California recognizes the importance of Planned*  
10 *Parenthood as one of California’s largest providers of women’s*  
11 *preventive and reproductive health care and reproductive health*  
12 *care services, operating 115 community-based health centers across*  
13 *the state, which service over provide more than 1.6 million patient*  
14 *visits a year; and*

15 *WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood provides comprehensive health*  
16 *care services to men and women, including well-woman exams,*  
17 *women and men, which may include well-woman examinations,*  
18 *birth control, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted*  
19 *infections and HIV, pregnancy tests, life-saving cancer screenings,*  
20 *prenatal care, sex education, prenatal care, primary care services*  
21 *in some locations, services, and abortion services; and*

22 *WHEREAS, Nationwide, during 4.6 million health center visits*  
23 *in 2013, Planned Parenthood provided services, including nearly*  
24 *400,000 Pap smear tests, nearly 500,000 breast examinations,*  
25 *nearly 1.1 million pregnancy tests, nearly 3.6 million provisions*  
26 *of birth control information and services, and nearly 4.5 million*  
27 *tests and treatments for sexually transmitted illnesses (including*  
28 *HIV), to approximately 2.7 million patients, nearly almost 80*  
29 *percent of whom were living with incomes at or below 150 percent*  
30 *of the federal poverty level; and*

31 *WHEREAS, By providing millions of women with access to*  
32 *contraceptive services, public funding of Planned Parenthood helps*  
33 *women to avoid an estimated 516,000 unplanned pregnancies each*  
34 *year nationwide; and*

35 *WHEREAS, A sudden defunding of Planned Parenthood’s*  
36 *publicly funded clinics health centers by federal or state*  
37 *governments would put patients across California, particularly*  
38 *members of underserved communities, at a significant disadvantage*  
39 *relating to their general health care given that because Planned*

1 Parenthood is often the only source of health care services for so  
2 many Californians; and

3 *WHEREAS, Violence against abortion providers and laws that*  
4 *create barriers to abortion endanger the lives of both men and*  
5 *women; and*

6 *WHEREAS, Reports have found that threats of harassment,*  
7 *intimidation, and violence against women’s health clinics have*  
8 *doubled since 2010, and as recently as November 27, 2015, a*  
9 *Planned Parenthood clinic was the target of a heinous act of*  
10 *domestic terrorism which resulted in the deaths of three people*  
11 *and nonfatal injuries to nine others; and*

12 ~~WHEREAS, The State of California stands in strong opposition~~  
13 ~~to recent attacks on Planned Parenthood and other health care~~  
14 ~~providers that offer reproductive health care services; support of~~  
15 ~~Roe v. Wade and the work of Planned Parenthood, and of women’s~~  
16 ~~reproductive health, and upholds each woman’s fundamental right~~  
17 ~~to make decisions regarding her pregnancy; now, therefore, be it~~

18 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*  
19 *California, jointly, That the Legislature urges the President of the*  
20 *United States and Congress to express their support for access to*  
21 *comprehensive reproductive health care care, including the services*  
22 *provided by Planned Parenthood and a woman’s fundamental right*  
23 *to control her own reproductive decisions, and to strongly oppose*  
24 *efforts to eliminate federal funding for Planned Parenthood; and*  
25 *be it further*

26 *Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of*  
27 *this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United*  
28 *States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the*  
29 *Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and*  
30 *Representative from California in the Congress of the United*  
31 *States.*

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