



A Resolution Seeking Support for the Constitutional Right to Abortion

**The following resolution was proposed by Chair Casey Steinau and adopted by unanimous consent at the Alaska Democratic Party State State Convention in Seward, Alaska
May 7, 2022**

WHEREAS leaked documents from the Supreme Court have made clear the court's intention to overturn the landmark 1973 decision in *Roe v. Wade*.

WHEREAS the affirmation of the fundamental constitution right to agency over one's own body and reproductive decisions has been settled precedent for 49 years in the United States

WHEREAS through the citizen activism of women under the leadership of Anchorage activist Helen Nienhueser and under the Alaska Constitution's privacy clause, Alaskans legalized abortion in 1970, three years before *Roe v. Wade* became settled law,

WHEREAS Republican extremists in Alaska and across the country have made it clear that they will remove by whatever means necessary the rights of bodily autonomy for more than half of all citizens,

WHEREAS the majority of Alaskans continue to believe that abortion should be legal and accessible in our state,

WHEREAS Alaska's geography will make seeking abortion care outside the state difficult or impossible for many in need,

WHEREAS the Supreme Court's anticipated opinion will signal a return of legal power to the elected representatives of each state and territory,

WHEREAS Governor Mike Dunleavy has made a public statement in support of the egregious draft ruling by the Supreme Court,

WHEREAS as recently as April 2022, 23 Alaska State House Republicans and Independent Representatives (including Reps. Merrick and Patkotak who are members of the bipartisan

Majority Coalition) approved an unconstitutional budget amendment to strip all funding for medically necessary abortions for poor and disadvantaged Alaskans with no exceptions for rape, incest, health or life,

WHEREAS Article I, Section 22 of the Alaska Constitution states that 'the right of the people to privacy is recognized and shall not be infringed,' and stands as a cornerstone of Alaska constitutional jurisprudence,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Democratic Party urges our supported candidates, Democratic legislators and their allies in Juneau, and members of our federal congressional delegation to: codify abortion protection; stand on the side of the Alaska Constitution and its specific right to privacy; adequately fund organizations providing abortion services, ensure the availability and affordability of abortion services in the state of Alaska, and demand the rights of every Alaskan seeking to terminate a pregnancy and claim constitutional bodily autonomy under the protections of Roe v. Wade and the Alaska Constitution as it has stood for 52 years.