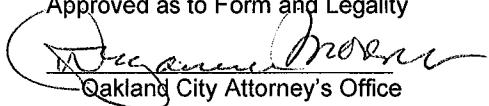


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Approved as to Form and Legality


Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS CAMPBELL WASHINGTON AND
GUILLEN

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING OAKLAND'S OPPOSITION TO "SEX-SELECTIVE ABORTION BANS" THAT PERPETUATE RACIAL STEREOTYPES

WHEREAS, in 2014, sex-selective abortion bans became the second-most proposed abortion ban in the United States, introduced in 21 states and passed in 8 states, including Illinois, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Kansas, North Carolina, North Dakota, Arizona, and South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, a sex-selective abortion ban prohibits abortions performed on the basis of sex; doctors who perform such a procedure could face jail time, fines or lawsuits from a patient or her spouse, parent, sibling or guardian; and a doctor or nurse who suspects a patient is seeking a sex-selective abortion is required to report her to authorities; and

WHEREAS, lawmakers across the country have successfully advocated for sex-selective abortion bans by perpetuating false and harmful racial stereotypes that such laws are necessary to stop an influx of Asian immigrants from spreading this practice and that Asian American communities do not value the lives of women; and

WHEREAS, sex-selective abortion bans encourage racial profiling of women by some medical providers; can lead to the denial of reproductive health care services to women by some medical providers; and lead to further stigmatization of women, particularly Asian American women; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, a sex-selective abortion ban was proposed in the United States Congress, benignly named the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act; and this ban was proposed in the United States Senate on January 7, 2015 and it is anticipated that it also will be proposed in the United States House of Representatives in 2015; and

WHEREAS, in February 2014, a similar measure, AB 2336, was proposed by California State Assemblywoman Shannon Grove; and

WHEREAS, some versions of sex-selective abortion bans have also included a race-selective ban, that would ban abortions performed on the basis of race and are based on suggestions that African American women are not capable of responsible reproductive health decisions and that abortion providers have a racist agenda; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona is currently facing a lawsuit brought against its race- and sex-selective ban by the American Civil Liberties Union, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum, for being unconstitutionally discriminatory against African American and Asian American women; and

WHEREAS, a coalition of Asian American and reproductive rights, health and justice organizations has formed to educate the public about the stereotyping inherent in sex-selective abortion bans, to condemn the rhetoric of ban advocates as deeply offensive, and to organize to defeat such discriminatory policies; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council urges the California State Legislature to reject any future attempts to pass a state sex-selective abortion ban; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council calls upon other cities, states and the federal government to likewise reject these discriminatory measures; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council directs the City Administrator to instruct the City's lobbyist to lobby against sex-selective abortion bans.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB,
KAPLAN, REID AND PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California