

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR REPEAL OF THE HYDE AMENDMENT AND SUPPORTING
THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE TO SAFE AND COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE

WHEREAS, a person's bodily autonomy and freedom to make reproductive decisions are vital to their safety, well-being, economic opportunity, and ability to participate equally in society; and

WHEREAS, access to safe, affordable, and comprehensive reproductive health care is a basic human right and is important for the overall physical and mental health of women and of intersex, transgender, and gender-nonconforming individuals who can become pregnant; and

WHEREAS, every person has a right to comprehensive, evidence-based information about the full range of reproductive health care options and should have access to comprehensive reproductive health care throughout their lives, regardless of income, race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, immigration status, geographic circumstance, criminal history, and insurance-coverage status; and

WHEREAS, the Hyde Amendment, passed by Congress on September 30, 1976, has for 42 years impeded access to abortion for low-income women enrolled in Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina law imposes limits on insurance coverage of abortion in the state Medicaid program and in insurance plans offered to state, county, and municipal employees; and

WHEREAS, the impact of health inequities and obstacles to quality health care fall hardest on low-income women, women of color, immigrant and undocumented women, survivors of domestic and sexual violence, transgender and gender-nonconforming individuals, and young women; and

WHEREAS, public health insurance programs should cover all of an individual's options when they are facing pregnancy and other reproductive health care decisions so that they are free to make choices about what is best for them and their family and so that their economic status and source of insurance coverage do not affect important health care decisions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Durham City Council calls for the repeal of the federal Hyde Amendment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council calls on Governor Cooper and our federal legislative delegation to actively support measures to ensure and protect the rights of women and intersex, transgender, and gender-nonconforming individuals to have unhindered access to safe and comprehensive health care.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council asks the City Clerk to share copies of the resolution with Governor Cooper, Representative G.K. Butterfield, and Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis.

This is the 17th day of December, 2018.