OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BILL SD.2808: AN ACT STRENGTHENING HEALTH CARE PROTECTIONS IN THE COMMONWEALTH

Access to reproductive health care and gender-affirming care are essential WHEREAS,

> components of comprehensive health services that affirm the dignity, bodily autonomy, and wellbeing of all residents of the Commonwealth;

and

WHEREAS. The escalation of out-of-state attempts to criminalize, penalize, or surveil

> individuals seeking or providing reproductive and gender-affirming care presents a growing threat to civil liberties and the safety of patients and

providers alike; and

WHEREAS. Bill SD.2808, An Act strengthening health care protections in the

> Commonwealth, filed by Senator Cindy F. Friedman and Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell, offers protections to ensure that Massachusetts remains a safe haven for individuals seeking or providing legally protected

health care; and

WHEREAS. The bill strengthens privacy protections for both providers and patients by

> shielding personal information—such as names, home addresses, and contact details—from public records and data disclosures; and prohibits the use of prescription monitoring programs or medical records in retaliation against individuals involved in the provision or receipt of reproductive or gender-affirming care, ensuring that data systems cannot be weaponized against those seeking or supporting lawful health care in

Massachusetts: and

WHEREAS, The bill also restricts any cooperation by Massachusetts agencies or

individuals with out-of-state investigations or enforcement actions

targeting care that is legal within the Commonwealth; clarifies that the

provision of gender-affirming care cannot serve as a basis for adverse custody determinations or disciplinary actions against health care professionals or attorneys; and empowers the Attorney General to bring civil actions to enforce these protections—reinforcing Massachusetts' commitment to health equity, legal safety, and bodily autonomy; *and*

WHEREAS,

SD.2808 aligns with the Commonwealth's longstanding commitment to advancing public health, equity, and civil rights in the face of a shifting national legal landscape. *NOW THEREFORE BE IT*

ORDERED: That the Boston City Council hereby expresses its strong support for Bill SD.2808 and urges the Massachusetts Legislature to swiftly enact this legislation to fortify our state's role as a national leader in defending access to reproductive and gender-affirming health care.

Filed in Council: April 30, 2025