OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, JULIA MEJIA , GABRIELA COLETTA, ARROYO, BOK, BREADON, FERNANDES ANDERSON, WORRELL AND FLYNN

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS REGULATION OF LIMITED SERVICE PREGNANCY CENTERS AND CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTERS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS, An individual's freedom to make reproductive decisions is vital to their safety, wellbeing, economic opportunity, and ability to participate equally in society; *and*

WHEREAS, The landscape of reproductive freedom in the United States has dangerously shifted with the Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade; *and*

WHEREAS, The rights established in Roe v. Wade had been relied upon in this country for nearly 50 years with nearly 7 in 10 Americans agreeing with the decision that established the right to an abortion; *and*

WHEREAS, The right-wing majority on the Supreme Court has now helped to advance the agenda to end access to safe abortion, which will disproportionately impact people of color and poor and working-class individuals; *and*

WHEREAS, Governor Charlie Baker issued an executive order that, in relevant part, prohibits Massachusetts government officials from cooperating in the investigation or prosecution of abortion seekers, their supporters, or their health care providers related to reproductive health care; *and*

WHEREAS, On March 24, 2022 Somerville passed an ordinance banning crisis pregnancy centers. The ban was proactive as they did not have any crisis pregnancy centers located within the city; *and*

WHEREAS, Crisis pregnancy centers, also known as limited service pregnancy centers, do exist in the City of Boston, and Boston has the authority to regulate abortions and abortion clinics (CBC 17-1) through the Boston Public Health Commission (Mass 1995 C. 0147). Accordingly, we must duly regulate and explore the full extent of the City's powers regarding the presence of limited service pregnancy centers in light of the Boston Public Health Commission's authority**;** *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston must go on record in its commitment to the protection of abortion rights, reproductive health care rights, and individuals' rights to make reproductive decisions about their own bodies; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED, That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss crisis pregnancy centers in the City of Boston, and that the Boston Public Health Commission, and relevant health care and abortion clinics, hospitals, government entities, non-profits, and interested parties be invited to attend and testify.

Filed on: JANUARY 11, 2023