



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

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2015 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 21

January 12, 2016 – Introduced by Representatives C. TAYLOR, SUBECK, RIEMER, HINTZ, MEYERS, CONSIDINE, OHNSTAD, BROSTOFF, POPE, MASON, BERCEAU, BILLINGS, KOLSTE and SARGENT.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- 1 **Relating to:** requiring the appointment of an assembly taskforce on women’s access
2 to affordable reproductive health care services.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This resolution requires the Committee on Assembly Organization to immediately appoint a committee, to be known as the Taskforce on Women’s Access to Affordable Reproductive Health Care Services, consisting of three members each of the majority and minority parties. The taskforce must study and recommend ways to increase and ensure women’s access to affordable reproductive health care services. The taskforce must submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the assembly before July 1, 2016.

- 3 Whereas, the Wisconsin state assembly stands in solidarity with the 336,000
4 women seeking access to affordable reproductive health care services in our state
5 each year; and

- 6 Whereas, numerous policies debated and passed by the legislature have
7 reduced support for safety net providers, including Planned Parenthood of
8 Wisconsin; and

1 Whereas, as a result of these policies, five rural Planned Parenthood health
2 centers that provided thousands of Wisconsin women access to critical health care
3 services, like cervical and breast cancer screenings, have closed, and no provider has
4 stepped in to provide care; and

5 Whereas, community-based reproductive health care providers not only
6 provide thousands of Wisconsin women with critical health care services, but also
7 prevent 7,200 abortions, 21,200 unintended pregnancies, 1,500 new STI cases, and
8 25 cervical cancer cases every year in Wisconsin; and

9 Whereas, women's health is jeopardized when access to health centers,
10 including Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, are reduced; and

11 Whereas, this body should study the impact of reducing access to and services
12 from critical reproductive health providers prior to adopting other measures that
13 could or do reduce these services; and

14 Whereas, every person, no matter who they are, what they look like, or where
15 they come from, should have the right to exercise their most basic individual liberties
16 and freedom to make their own personal, private health care decisions free of
17 government interference, intimidation, and harassment; now, therefore, be it

18 ***Resolved by the assembly, That*** women's health should not be compromised
19 by politically motivated attacks that do not promote and enhance access to health
20 care, and that this legislature should pass policies which increase access to
21 reproductive health care for thousands of Wisconsin women; and, be it further

22 ***Resolved, That*** the committee on assembly organization shall immediately
23 appoint a committee, to be known as the Taskforce on Women's Access to Affordable
24 Reproductive Health Care Services, consisting of three members each of the majority
25 and minority parties. The taskforce shall study and recommend ways to increase and

1 ensure women's access to affordable reproductive health care services. The taskforce
2 shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the assembly before
3 July 1, 2016.

4 (END)