

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 78

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 7, 2016

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 78.

This concurrent resolution commemorates women's access to reproductive health care and celebrates the 43rd anniversary of the United States Supreme Court ruling in Roe v. Wade. On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court decision in Roe established that the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution extended to a woman's decision to have an abortion. Pursuant to the Due Process Clause, the Supreme Court decision ensures that abortion is—within the scope of personal liberty—a safe and legal procedure before viability.

It is the goal of the State Legislature of New Jersey to continue improving women's access to reproductive health care, including access to family planning and prenatal support. Reproductive health care is a deeply personal and often complex issue for a woman, and decision-making in this area should be left to the woman, with the counsel of her family, faith, and doctor.