<u>Los Angeles County Pilot Project for Abortion and Other Reproductive Healthcare</u> Services

Across the country, we have witnessed the severe and dangerous consequences stemming from the *Dobbs v. Jackson*. Media continues to report disturbing stories of women, girls, and other birthing people having to leave their state for an abortion, only to return to their home in fear of action their state or local government may take. As more states roll back the fundamental right to an abortion, it is anticipated that interstate travel for abortion services will only grow.

Californians have been mostly safeguarded by the Supreme Court's ramifications, but our State's desire to serve as a refuge for fellow Americans seeking abortion services has amplified. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors recognizes that we have a responsibility to each other, which is why the Board of Supervisors supported Senator Sydney Kamlager's legislation to make Los Angeles County a safe haven for out-of-state patients who need to travel across state lines to get safe and legal abortion services as well as other reproductive healthcare. This legislation, now before Governor Gavin Newsom, would allocate \$20 million to reproductive care programs in the County.

In advance of the *Dobbs* decision, the County of Los Angeles has been preparing to serve not only Los Angeles County residents but also residents from other localities and states as needed. To that end, a pilot project is needed to establish a reduced-cost and no-cost plan with the Department of Health Services for residents seeking abortion and other reproductive healthcare services from a County hospital or clinic. The goal of this

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pilot is to ensure that the cost for services and concerns about receiving a bill do not pose an additional barrier for those seeking these services.

WE THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors grant the Director of the Department of Health Services delegated authority to, for the maximum allowable time, establish a Reduced-Cost Plan/No-Cost Plan Pilot Project, under Ordinance 2.76.350(c), for Out-of-County residents seeking Sensitive Services from an LA County Health Services clinic or hospital, which shall make these services more affordable, including, in appropriate circumstances, free, in all DHS facilities that offer these services.

WE FURTHER MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of Department of Health Services to seek funding for short-term and long-term solutions at the local, state, and federal level to cover the cost of services provided under this program.

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