

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

August 7 1989

C. Walsh Order #32

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mr. Thomas W. Danehy		✓		
Mr. Francis H. Duehay	✓			
Ms. Sandra Graham	✓			
Mrs. Sheila T. Russell		✓		
Mr. David E. Sullivan				✓
Mr. Walter J. Sullivan		✓		
Mr. William H. Walsh		✓		
Ms. Alice K. Wolf	✓			
Mayor Alfred E. Vellucci	✓			

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City of Cambridge

32.

IN CITY COUNCIL

August 7, 1898

VICE MAYOR WOLF

WHEREAS: In their ruling in the case of Webster v. Reproductive Health Services, the Supreme Court limited the privacy rights of women by seriously undercutting Roe v. Wade and, among other things:

- (1) Permitting states to prohibit abortions in public facilities and in private facilities that receive public support
- (2) Permitting states to institute a gag order on medical personnel from counseling women on abortion; and

WHEREAS: This may be the first step in completely undermining a woman's fundamental right of privacy and supports government intervention into a most basic personal choice for women; and

WHEREAS: Poor women and their families will suffer the greatest harm under the ruling as they are the ones whose access to safe abortions will be mostly readily cut off, making them susceptible to back alley abortions that endanger their lives and those of their families; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge City Council recognizes that a woman's choice to have or not to have an abortion can be a most difficult one and is always a very personal one, with a range of personal and moral values and medical advice reflected in such a choice; and

WHEREAS: Under this ruling, the decision-making power of a woman's right to choose will revert to the State's Legislature and to the ballot box; and,

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Vice Mayor Wolf

WHEREAS: In November, 1986, the voters of Cambridge by a vote of 21,746 to 6,736 voted against allowing the Legislature to prohibit or regulate abortions and against removing public funding for abortions; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council affirms its support of reproductive rights and of a woman's right to choice in all reproductive matters; and be it further

RESOLVED: That in affirming the reproductive rights of all women, the Cambridge City Council adopts the following steps to be taken:

- (1) A copy of this resolution be sent to all of State Senators and State Representatives representing Cambridge and to our delegation in the United States Congress requesting them to vote against attempts to limit abortion rights for any woman through legislation or constitutional amendments, and to support petitions and legislation that would protect a woman's right to choose.
- (2) All City Departments reaffirm their protection of and the right of all women to receive appropriate treatment and information regarding reproductive rights, including abortions, as is their right.

In City Council August 7, 1989.
Failed of adoption by a yea and nay vote:-
Yeas 4; Nays 4; Absent 0; Present 1.
Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy:

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton
Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

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 - (2) All City Departments reaffirm their protection of and the right of all women to receive appropriate treatment and information regarding reproductive rights, including abortions, as is their right under the present State law and Constitution.

VM Wolf re: resolutions affirming the City Council's support of reproductive rights & a woman's right to choice in all reproductive matters.

In City Council,

August 7, 1989

8-7-89

Order Failed on
Adoption
Roll Call

4-4-0-1