

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 31

To express the sense of the Senate that the Attorney General should act immediately to protect reproductive health care clinics.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 6 (legislative day, January 5), 1995

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. SIMON, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. DODD, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. PELL, Mr. CHAFEE, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. BRADLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

To express the sense of the Senate that the Attorney General should act immediately to protect reproductive health care clinics.

Whereas there are approximately 900 clinics in the United States providing reproductive health services;

Whereas violence directed at persons seeking to provide reproductive health services continues to increase in the United States, as demonstrated by the recent shootings at two reproductive health clinics in Massachusetts and another health care clinic in Virginia;

Whereas organizations monitoring clinic violence have recorded over 130 incidents of violence or harassment di-

rected at reproductive health care clinics and their personnel in 1994 such as death threats, stalking, chemical attacks, bombings and arson;

Whereas there has been one attempted murder in Florida and four individuals killed at reproductive health care clinics in Florida and Massachusetts in 1994;

Whereas the Congress passed and the President signed the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act of 1994, a law establishing Federal criminal penalties and civil remedies for certain violent, threatening, obstructive and destructive conduct that is intended to injure, intimidate or interfere with persons seeking to obtain or provide reproductive health services;

Whereas violence is not a mode of free speech and should not be condoned as a method of expressing an opinion;

Whereas persons exercising their constitutional rights and acting completely within the law are entitled to full protection from the Federal Government;

Whereas the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act of 1994 imposes a mandate on the Federal Government to protect individuals seeking to obtain or provide reproductive health services; and

Whereas the Attorney General has at her disposal law enforcement personnel including 10,000 FBI agents and over 2000 members of the United States Marshals Service: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the
- 2 United States Attorney General should fully enforce the
- 3 law and take any further necessary measures to protect
- 4 persons seeking to provide or obtain, or assist in providing

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1 or obtaining, reproductive health services from violent
2 attack.

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