

March 22, 2023

SenLOE@sen.state.nv.us
Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections
Legislative Building
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701-4747

RE: Letter in Support of S.J.R. 7

Dear Chair Ohrenschall, Vice Chair Daly, and Members of the Committee,

I am a constituent, having resided in Nevada since 2012. My life is here in Reno where I am working, raising my 4-year-old daughter, and getting my Master's degree at UNR to become a teacher. I am writing to you today to ask you to take the important first step in giving constitutional protection to every Nevadan's right to privacy and right to make our own reproductive decisions by passing S.J.R. 7.

Though we as Nevadans already have some protections in the law that enable us to make our own decisions when it comes to reproductive health, putting language in the Nevada Constitution that ensures comprehensive protection for the right to make one's own decisions without interference from the government will permanently keep intact our democratic ideals of life, liberty, and happiness for every individual. As a mother, I can say confidently that having a child affects every aspect of life profoundly, from changes to physical health during pregnancy and after childbirth to financial considerations to the rhythm of everyday life. That decision to have a child or not should rest with the individuals most impacted. No matter what political changes we might see in the next decade, I want to live in a state where I know my daughter will forever be the one to make decisions about her own body; where she will never be denied access to critical medical attention because a lawyer thinks she is not close enough to death; where she can live her life with freedom and dignity.

I hope that you will take this opportunity to stand up for my right to bodily autonomy, and, more importantly, that of my daughter, and pass S.J.R. 7. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Hansen

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