Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	Res 0920-2015	**Version:**	*	**Name:**	Support a woman's right to abortion and to oppose sex-selective abortion bans that perpetuate racial stereotypes and undermine access to care.
Type:	Resolution			**Status:**	Filed (End of Session)
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Title: Resolution urging the United States Congress and the State of New York to support a woman's right to abortion and to oppose sex-selective abortion bans that perpetuate racial stereotypes and undermine access to care.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Attachments: 1. December 7, 2015 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
12/7/2015	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
12/7/2015	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
12/31/2017	*	City Council	Filed (End of Session)	

Res. No. 920

Resolution urging the United States Congress and the State of New York to support a woman's right to abortion and to oppose sex-selective abortion bans that perpetuate racial stereotypes and undermine access to care.

By Council Members Chin, Cumbo, Crowley, Johnson, Koslowitz, Lander, Mendez, Richards, Rose, Dromm, Rodriguez, Ferreras-Copeland and Rosenthal

Whereas, In 2013 and 2014, sex-selective abortion bans were the second-most proposed abortion ban in the United States; having been introduced in 21 states to date, and passed in 8 states, including Illinois, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Kansas, North Carolina, North Dakota, Arizona, and South Dakota; and

Whereas, A sex-selective abortion ban prohibits abortions performed on the basis of sex and doctors who perform such a procedure may face the threat of jail time, fines or lawsuits from a patient or the patient's spouse, parent, sibling or guardian; and

Whereas, A sex-selective abortion ban is a restriction that scrutinizes a women's reasons for making the decision to terminate a pregnancy, thus opening the door to more abortion bans based on a woman's personal

choice; and

Whereas, Lawmakers who advocate for sex-selective abortion bans perpetuate false and harmful racial stereotypes that such laws are necessary, for example, to stop Asian immigrants from spreading the practice of sex selection and that Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities do not value the lives of women; and

Whereas, Sex-selective abortion bans can lead some medical professionals to question a woman's motives based on their ethnicity, and thus such bans interfere with the doctor-patient relationship, potentially leading to arbitrary delay or denial of reproductive health services; and

Whereas, In 2008, 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015, The Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act, a sex-selective abortion ban, was proposed in the United States Congress; and

Whereas, Currently introduced as S.48, this bill specifically highlights India and China as places where individuals seek out sex-selective abortions, thus implying that law enforcement would target and more closely scrutinize these communities in the United States; and

Whereas, Additionally, New York State Assembly Member Marcos Crespo introduced, A.6545, a bill that would criminalize the performance of or an attempt to perform a sex-selective abortion in New York State; and

Whereas, New York City is home to the largest AAPI community in the country and they, along with reproductive health and justice advocates, have called for an end to these bans; and

Whereas, Over 78 percent of all AAPIs in New York City are foreign-born, 49 percent of AAPIs have limited English proficiency, and 20 percent are uninsured; AAPI women do not need more barriers to reproductive health care; and

Whereas, The ability to access safe abortions is necessary to ensure that women can plan their lives and families without risking their health in the way that makes most sense for themselves and their families; now, therefore be it

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Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York urges the United States Congress and the State of New York to support a woman's right to abortion and to oppose sex-selective abortion bans that perpetuate racial stereotypes and undermine access to care.

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7/7/15
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