

Statement: Black Women for Wellness

Good Morning Everyone.

In the last 40 years, we've seen the rise of computers, the invention of the cell phones, we landed a spacecraft on Mars, the internet happened. We've made leaps and bounds in science and technology, but for some reason when it comes to the rights of woman to have control over her body, we still seem to be stuck in 1969. Today The Los Angeles Coalition for Reproductive Justice joins Los Angeles in stating that we will not be quiet, when it comes to women's autonomy.

Today we are saying boldly, we need to put an end to the Hyde amendment. Regardless of women's income, whether she has public and private insurance, or where she works, she should be able to make decisions about her body, with whom she decides to make those decisions with. We know the intentions of Henry Hyde who first introduced the amendment, and it was to end the right for women to have an abortion. But since that wasn't possible at the time, he settled for our most vulnerable women, and government employees. And every year since then, congress has reinstated the Hyde amendment, with very little changes over the years. Under councilwoman Nury Martinez bold leadership, Los Angeles is joining cities across the nation in setting forth a resolution that calls on Congress and our President to reinstate insurance coverage for abortion services for all women by enacting the Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance (EACH) Woman Act. I invite our local congressional members who have not signed on to join us and be Bold and sign on to the EACH women act. Women's shouldn't have to wait another forty years for progress.