

SENATE RESOLUTION

8699

By Senator Keiser

1 WHEREAS, All Washington residents seeking health care have the  
2 right to access their provider of choice without fear of violence or  
3 intimidation; and

4 WHEREAS, Between June 2015 and December 2015, arson, vandalism,  
5 threats, and harassment have increased at health centers for women,  
6 including:

7 (1) A firebombing at a women's health center in Pullman,  
8 Washington in September 2015; and

9 (2) An attack by a gunman at a women's health center in Colorado  
10 Springs, Colorado on November 27, 2015, resulting in the tragic death  
11 of three individuals and injury of another nine people; and

12 WHEREAS, Extreme rhetoric can contribute to a climate that is  
13 dangerous for those who provide or access comprehensive women's  
14 health care services; and

15 WHEREAS, A high proportion of people of color rely on  
16 reproductive health centers and are therefore disproportionately  
17 impacted by attacks on centers that provide these health care  
18 services; and

19 WHEREAS, 3,000 patients had their access to health care  
20 threatened as the clinic in Pullman, Washington was forced to spend a  
21 quarter-million dollars on six months of rebuilding after having  
22 their facility firebombed; and

1       WHEREAS, The right of citizens to make their own health care  
2 decisions is well established;

3       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate  
4 condemn acts of violence against women's health care clinics and  
5 providers, and their patients, families, and supporters; and

6       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all people in Washington state  
7 should be able to access health care without fear of violence,  
8 intimidation, or harassment.

--- END ---