

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 247

Reps. Brabec, Cynthia Johnson, Pohutsky, Camilleri, Puri, Manoogian, Stone, Kuppa, Brenda Carter, Clemente, Aiyash, Cavanagh, Morse, Lasinski, Neeley, Rogers, Scott, Brixie, Hood, Sowerby, Hope and Sneller offered the following resolution:

1           A resolution to affirm that *Griswold v. Connecticut* was  
2 rightly decided.

3           Whereas, The 1965 United States Supreme Court case *Griswold v.*  
4 *Connecticut* is foundational to modern day civil rights. The case  
5 established a constitutional right to marital privacy, which  
6 effectively created a right to access birth control for married  
7 couples. This right was later extended in subsequent cases to apply  
8 beyond the marital relationship; and

9           Whereas, Access to birth control has played a pivotal role in  
10 the fight for gender equality. The Centers for Disease Control and

1 Prevention named "family planning" one of the ten great public  
2 health achievements of the 20th century due to how it has "altered  
3 [the] social and economic roles of women." Research shows that  
4 birth control availability is associated with an "increase in U.S.  
5 women's education, labor force participation, and average earnings,  
6 coupled with a narrowing in the wage gap between women and men";  
7 and

8       Whereas, In addition, unplanned pregnancies can result in  
9 adverse health outcomes for both mother and child. Women who have  
10 unintended pregnancies are less likely to receive prenatal care and  
11 more likely to experience postpartum depression. Unplanned  
12 pregnancies have also been associated with higher rates of preterm  
13 birth and low birthweight; and

14       Whereas, The *Griswold* decision recognized that preventing  
15 access to birth control infringes on the fundamental right to  
16 privacy. The case emphasized the notion that fundamental rights,  
17 including the right to privacy, must be protected in order to  
18 uphold the foundational principles of the Constitution; and

19       Whereas, The United States has long recognized that some  
20 rights are too central to one's pursuit of life, liberty, and  
21 happiness to allow state governments to infringe upon them. The  
22 *Griswold* decision, along with subsequent cases, appropriately  
23 established that these rights include the rights to privacy, bodily  
24 integrity, and family planning. By doing so, the decision helped to  
25 shape many rights that Americans take for granted every day; now,  
26 therefore, be it

27       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we affirm that  
28 *Griswold v. Connecticut* was rightly decided.